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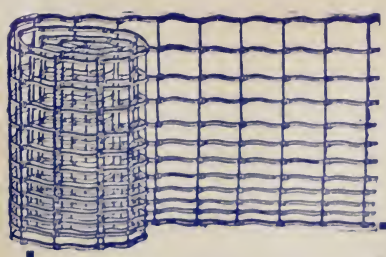

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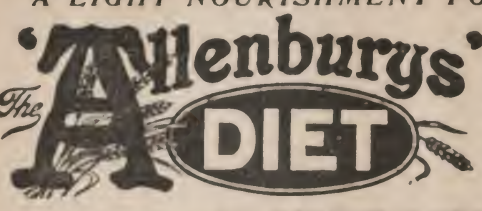

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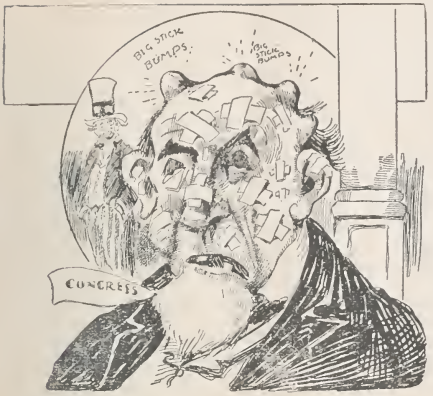

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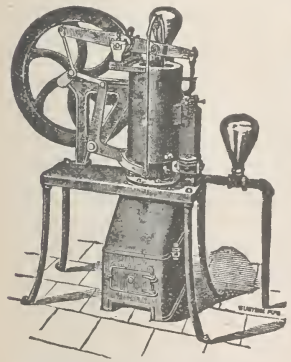

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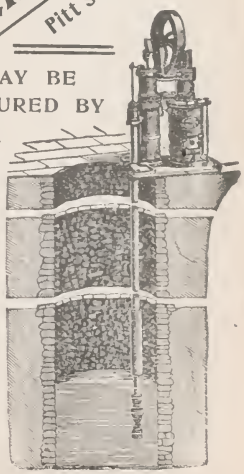

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CONTENTS FOR MAY, 1909.

	Page
History of the Month (Australian)	lxxiv.
History of the Month (English)	203
Current History in Caricature	214
Interviews on Topics of the Month:	
The Territorials: Lord Esher	220
The Sexaphone: Mr. Williams	221
A Fillip to Socialism? The Public Trustee	222
The Ocean a Cure for Consumption	224
John Bull at the Penitent Form: The Report on the Poor Law	225
Leading Articles in the Magazines—	
Azeff the Assassin	231
Mr. Hilaire Belloc on the Press	232
Lord Morley's Reforms	233
Leading Articles (Continued)—	
The Airship and the Peace of the World	234
A Court *Sans Reproche*	234
A Curious View of the English	235
A Queen's Girlhood	236
The Chinese Emperor	237
Mendelssohn in England	237
Dr. Russel Wallace at Home	238
Count Tolstoi's Latest Sermon	239
The "Strand" Pageant	239
Spider-Webbing the United States	240
Plants that Foretell Weather	241
"The Idol of all Russia"	241
Solving the Problem of the Feeble-Minded	242
Uncle Sam and his Tramps	242
Religious Schism in the Philippines	243
Morality and Happiness	244
Gilbert White's Selborne	244
Goethe as Psychic	245
Towards the United States of Europe	246
The New Book of Genesis	247

(Continued on next page.)

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CONTENTS - (Continued from page lxxii.)

	Page
Leading Articles (Continued)—	
What Roosevelt Has Done	248
What Roosevelt is Going to Do	248
The Sultan—Unreformed	249
What we may Learn from the Swiss	249
Guns to Fight Airships	250
Are Brazilians too Low?	250
Why not British Family Councils?	251
Teaching Children to Read—Books	251
The Career of Sir Alma-Tadema	252
Charles Darwin	253
The Secret of "Standard Oil"	253
A High School for Peasants	254
Mr. Carnegie Down on Socialism	255
Two Object-Lessons Side by Side	256
The Tsar's Little Daughters	256
The Occult in the Magazines	257
A New Argument for the House of Lords	258
"The Suffragette of Europe"	258
Centenary of the "Quarterly"	259
Poetry in the Magazines	259
Random Readings from the Reviews	260-1
Reviews Reviewed—	
The American Review of Reviews	262
The Contemporary Review	262
The Fortnightly Review	263
The World's Work—The National Review	264
The Nineteenth Century and After	265
The Dutch Reviews	265
The Italian and Spanish Reviews	266
The Dramatic Revival in England	267
Healers and Healing (concluded)	269
The Book of the Month—	
"The M.P. for Russia"	272
The Shanghai Anti-Opium Conference of Nations	281
Soil Inoculation	283
Insurance Notes	284

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THE HEN—"Cluck, cluck, cluck, what a grand egg I've laid."
THE ROOSTERS—"Yes, the egg's there all right—but will you hatch it?"

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FOR AUSTRALASIA.

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THE HISTORY OF THE MONTH.

MELBOURNE, April 21st, 1909.

Mr. Fisher's Speech.

At long last Mr. Fisher has broken the silence. On March 30, at Gympie, he unfolded the Ministerial programme. Upon some aspects of it Mr. Fisher is to be congratulated. It was clear in its main points. It distinctly resembled a higher message in that it was so plain that the wayfaring man, though densely dull, could understand it. Yet one searched in vain for the reasons for the dead silence that had hitherto prevailed regarding the utterances to be made upon the momentous occasion on the policy of the Government generally. It was a Labour programme, as was to be expected. There was no attempt to parade under other colours. And why Mr. Fisher acted the part of the man who has some deeply-laid scheme in his brain, afraid almost to think it for fear the sensitive ether waves should carry the message to others, and a catastrophe should result, is a problem so inconsequential that one hardly takes the trouble to give it up. There was nothing in the speech that one might not have expected to see there. It certainly did not warrant the stage silence that set the country on its nerves. But while the speech was clear as to generalities, it was decidedly misty with regard to details, and one rises from a study of the speech in wonderment as to what Mr. Fisher is going to do in order to make good his proposals. New Protection, enforcement of awards in favour of workers (such as the Broken Hill award), old age pensions, a big naval programme, compulsory training, improved land tax, Commonwealth note issue, transcontinental railway—all these things Mr. Fisher is in favour of, but with regard to some of them he failed to show how they were to be accomplished. That is where his speech is misty. From one point of view, it might have been the platform laid down by a candidate upon the hustings rather than the statement of the policy of a Cabinet. For it is one thing to lay out a course, and another to be able to cover it; one thing to project the work and another to carry it out; and Mr. Fisher's speech lacked the very essential needed to carry it out to a practical issue.

A Combination Programme.

With most of the Government's proposals, Liberals will agree, most, but not all. Still, all the essentials, the proposals that have any chance of being carried, are such as can be accepted by the House generally, and by the country. For instance, the applying of Protection to the worker, so that he shall get decent wages in return for higher payments for his goods, and consequent benefit to his employer, is a proposition that no one can cavil at. If the community pays to benefit employers, it is right that the employer should consider the community, in this case, his employee. The enforcement of awards, a proper defence policy, the transcontinental railway, the things that are near and tangible, Parliament will be practically in agreement over. It is only in the vague and shadowy, the uncertain and far-off thing that disagreement comes in. A Commonwealth note issue, a land tax (however desirable), the nationalisation of the iron industry, these are parts of the Labour programme, which are not likely to materialise for a very long time. But they are the bunting, the adornment, the flourish, the advertisement, put in to show the Labour cause throughout the Commonwealth what the Party is driving at. Had they been left out the Cabinet would have come in for heavy stricture. But the Government has no more hope of any of these things materialising that it has of remaining in power through the next session of Parliament. The fact, however, that in the practical things the Government is doing no more than following the lead of the Deakin Government, makes the action of the Labour Party in turning the latter out of office just on the eve of reform all the more inexplicable. Mr. Fisher has practically nothing new of a practical character to propose. It is true he is flying some of the kites of his party, but at present he is running on the course that was mapped out by Mr. Deakin. The Deakin party may be pardoned if they happen to feel a little over being turned out of office, on the plea that they were not going far or fast enough, by another party which simply appropriates their policy, and goes no faster. What reason induced this piratical outburst has not come to light yet, though

history is bound to reveal it some day. The Gympie speech, with absolutely nothing new in practical questions, makes the mystification of that problem greater than ever.

New Protection.

Now as to the programme. We take it in the order given by Mr. Fisher, although we should certainly not have arranged it as he has done. Evidently, however, priority of position stands for importance; first things first. So be it. Mr. Fisher places first New Protection. To the fiscal aspect of the question the country has undoubtedly committed itself for some years to come. It is useless to argue that point here, but a fact that must never be forgotten is that when Parliament from all sides sanctioned high duties, it was on the distinct understanding that firms benefiting should come under the purview of the Government, and pay proper wages and observe proper conditions of work, or, as Mr. Fisher put it, that the Protection shall not be exclusive, but it shall be in favour of the employees as well as the manufacturers. The Customs and Excise Act provided that if a manufacturer paid fair and reasonable wages, he would be relieved of excise duties, which others had to pay. This was right and just. But a case came before the court, in which it was averred that the men concerned did not receive fair wages. The Arbitration Court found in favour of the men, but the manufacturer had the award set aside by the High Court, on the ground that it was ultra vires, that the Federal Parliament had exceeded its powers when it legislated on a question which was a State right. Mr. Fisher says that this must not be in the future, and that the Commonwealth must have equal powers with the States to ensure full effect being given to its laws. Quite right, and nobody will quarrel with this proposal. To do so would be to quarrel with the right to make laws. To deny the right of the former is to make the latter into a farce. Administration is the natural sequence of legislation. But what is wanted here is clearly authority to make the laws. The Commonwealth made a law which the Constitution did not give it authority to do. Mr. Fisher put it that the High Court set aside the standard of a living wage set up by the President of the Arbitration Court. But it did nothing of the kind. It simply defined the borders of the Constitution. Mr. Fisher's criticism of the High Court judges was ill-timed.

Broken Hill.

Mr. Fisher waxed eloquent over the Broken Hill award, which in principle is the same as the case just mentioned. In the latter case the award is being tested. In both cases they were in favour of the men. In our opinion, in both cases the men deserved the wage which the court said they should have. But Mr. Fisher says that he is "going to introduce into Parliament a Referendum Bill, by which the people will be able to decide for themselves that the Federal Parliament should have the power, beyond all legal doubts, to enforce the Broken Hill verdict." That, of course, means an amendment to the Constitution. We repeat that it is necessary for the Government that makes the laws to have authority and power to administer them, and if an amendment of the Constitution is necessary in order to secure power, let it be made, and at the earliest possible moment. There is too much to do for time to be wasted in passing inoperative legislation. Besides that, the principles underlying democracy are weakened. Moreover, the Commonwealth should govern industrial legislation. It ought to be uniform throughout the States. But a question that will obtrude itself is this—If the verdicts in the two cases had been against the men, and the men had refused to abide by the award, would Mr. Fisher have been as eloquent and as determined to establish the law? Captious criticism, says someone; unfair to prejudge. But it is hardly that, and the situation is a serious one. What of the numerous awards that have been given against the men, and of the flaunting of the law by them? What of the miners' strikes and the timber-workers' strikes in West Australia, of the notable Teralba strike, of the bakers' strike in Victoria, of New Zealand's trouble over the slaughtermen? What of these, and others? Why has Mr. Fisher, leader of the Labour forces in Australia, never said aught in public of the necessity for the enforcement of these awards. Mr. Fisher's answer would be that these were State matters, that the Commonwealth Parliament had no jurisdiction in them. But that is begging the question. The failure to observe the awards were matters that in import went far beyond State borders; but what Labour man recognised the wrong to justice, or if he recognised it, gave voice to it? Not one. And it comes with bad grace from the Prime Minister to keep both eyes wide open when professing to hold the scales of justice. Cannot Mr. Fisher see that the right to enforce a verdict against an employer carries the right to enforce a verdict against an employee, that the safety of the Labour movement lies in upholding justice, that if it fail, that movement even is doomed to early destruction? This part of Mr. Fisher's speech would have had about it a ring that would have been heartening had his voice been raised in protest against defiance of the law by Labour unions. As it is, no matter that the ends he has in view are desirable, his words are as harsh and unwelcome as tinkling cymbal. There is no real fraternalism, no real love for fellow-man in an advocacy that spells compulsion for one and licence for another under the same conditions. We stand for good wages and the best of conditions in industrial life, for the annihilation of the sweater and of every evil power, but these cannot be if justice marks one portion of industrial life and injustice the other.

Naval Defence.

After his allusion to the Government's intention to carry out the Old Age Pensions' scheme, Mr. Fisher came to one of the most important features of his speech—the Naval Programme. In addition to the two destroyers ordered, and the one that is to come out in parts, the Government lays down a large programme. Briefly, it is to provide, in a period covering three years, twenty-three destroyers, including the three which have been already ordered. The cost will be something about £2,500,000, and the annual upkeep will reach about £300,000 a year. This scheme will, of course, need to be submitted to Parliament, as the building of the three that are ordered should have been. It is quite probable that Parliament will agree to something of the kind, for it is largely an amplification of Mr. Deakin's scheme, and it is highly desirable that the matter of naval defence should be taken in hand. What we complain about is that the matter was set about without Parliament's authority. As to the general desirability of the scheme, we discuss that later.

Compulsory Training.

For land defence Mr. Fisher expounds the doctrine of compulsory training. This was only to be expected from a Cabinet which contains such an enthusiastic partisan of the question as Mr. Hughes. That gentleman is a compulsionist to his finger tips, and the proposal bears the imprint of his earnestness. The proposal of the Government is to begin compulsory training at the age of ten years, and to end at the age of twenty. From ten to fourteen years two hours a week will be devoted to drill; from fourteen to eighteen years the compulsees will require to put in twelve half-days and twenty-four night drills in a year; from eighteen to 20 they will have the same amount as the last named, with the addition of sixteen continuous days' training in camp. Provision is made for volunteer service from twenty to thirty years. The Prime Minister estimates that the number of men available in three years would be 63,000, and in twelve years, 219,000. There are not so many objectionable features about this as about some others that have been proposed, but, after all, the compulsion extends to too great an age. We thoroughly approve of the training of lads at school. There is no hardship about that, but it might well end at eighteen years. If instruction has been good, eight years ought to give the growing lad such a grasp of the essentials of a military training that he will prove an adept if ever called on to bear arms. Mr. Fisher very astutely mixed his pill with sweetmeat, and his audience duly swallowed it with relish. Everybody who has the interests of the people at heart is in favour of medical inspection in the schools, so when Mr. Fisher said that the compulsory training would be associated with efficient medical inspection, the audience cheered, and seemed to reckon the compulsory service was worth while to get the medical inspection. This, of course, was a little dodge which the promulgators of the scheme were entitled to use, but it was not necessary to use it to sweeten the pill that otherwise might have stuck in many throats. But not many parents would object to compulsory drill. As a matter of fact, it is compulsory in the schools now, and an extension of knowledge will not hurt the children. That, we have all along maintained, is where the problem should be attacked—with the boys in the schools; but there is no necessity to make it compulsory long after school age is passed.

Insufficient Revenue.

But just here Mr. Fisher ran up against a snag. All of his previous propositions had carried with them heavy expenditures, huge outlays, and he finds himself in difficulty even to carry on current arrangements. Mr. Fisher estimates that the last financial year's imports were in excess of requirements, and that last year's record of £11,040,711 will not be reached by £240,711. Why, it is hard to see. Australia is not by any means stagnant, and there is no justification for a pessimistic outlook. Everything points to a rising revenue. However, Mr. Fisher estimates that on June 30, he will probably find himself about £100,000 short. When it is remembered that estimates have already been cut down, it will be seen that, if the Prime Minister's fears are realised, we shall be in a quandary. Already the Post Office is stripped bare. It needs nearly a million pounds to set it in proper condition. In the crisis Mr. Fisher foresees he suggests three courses:—(a) To cut down expenditure, (b) to impose additional taxation, (c) to reduce the amount payable to the old age pensions fund. The last of these courses Mr. Fisher says will not be entered upon, and in that he is right. This beneficent proposal must not be crippled. Besides, it is only fair that the States should receive so much less out of their apportionment from Commonwealth revenue, so that the terror Mr. Fisher is raising there is a bogey after all. However, on reasonable assumption, there must be a shortage in the future on general items, for the income is not sufficient now for expanding services.

Utopian Proposals.

What is to be done? For the purpose of helping to make ends meet, Mr. Fisher has two novel proposals—novel, in that, while new to Federal politics, they are wholly inadequate to meet the situation. An unimproved land values tax and a Commonwealth note issue are to be the carriers of good fortune. But there is no chance of either of these proposals being carried out. An unimproved land tax would be an excellent thing. It is a necessity apart from its taxation

value. In the development of a country's resources it is as desirable as roads and rail. But its inclusion in the programme of the Government for the coming session is only a bit of kite-flying. For one thing, it would not yield enough to relieve the coming financial strain; for another, Mr. Fisher stated in very explicit terms that he did not expect to carry the proposal through. The position is somewhat anomalous. As far as a note issue is concerned, there is nothing important to be said against it, but at best it could not yield a great deal, and as a remedy for emptiness in the exchequer, it is a puerile proposal.

State Debts.

When the Premiers' Conference was sitting in Hobart recently, the Federal Government caused the Conference some perturbation by refusing to be an active participant in the discussions on the question of the financial relations betwixt States and Commonwealth. The Conference concluded with a proposal that two-fifths of the Commonwealth revenue should be returned to the States, instead of one-fourth, as at present, provided that no less than £6,750,000 should be returned in any one year, and that a special payment, commencing at £250,000, and diminishing by £10,000 a year, should be made to West Australia. In the present condition of affairs, the Commonwealth would receive about £1,350,000 more than it does at present. Mr. Fisher's proposal is that a minimum total amount of £5,000,000 per year should be returned to the States, with an additional amount of £250,000 to West Australia, the latter diminishing on a sliding scale. But even this is inadequate. Where is the necessity of perpetuating a scheme whereby the activities of the Commonwealth are crippled? Better far would it be to let the Commonwealth have the whole of Customs revenue. A drastic proposal! Probably, but the needs of the Commonwealth to-day will not be its needs in ten years' time. An adequate defence, naval and military, a properly-equipped post office, transcontinental railway, the lighting of our long coasts, Northern Territory development—all of these will mean money. Curiously enough, Federal members seem shy of proposing this, probably from a fear of constituents, who dread State taxation. But after all, it is six of one and half-a-dozen of the other. Both Commonwealth and States need revenue, and if the Commonwealth cannot get it direct from the Customs, it must raise it by taxation. Vice versa is the States' position. If they cannot get ready money from the Commonwealth, they must raise it by taxation. The same people pay the money, whether State or Commonwealth raises it, and the most reasonable and proper thing to do is to hand the Customs revenue over to the Commonwealth without any deductions. It is time the States dropped their leading strings.

State Debts.

On the question of State debts, Mr. Fisher touched the proper note. The change from State to Commonwealth should be made at once. Mr. Fisher deprecated the idea of the Commonwealth being simply a seventh borrower, and there was wisdom in his remarks. The Commonwealth could even afford to take over the State debts if the whole of the Customs revenue were handed over to them, for by saving the difference in terms which the Commonwealth would be undoubtedly able to secure, a sinking fund would be created which would wipe out the whole debt in less than a century.

Iron Industry.

Mr. Fisher looks forward to the nationalisation of the iron industry. But this again is kite-flying. The industry is difficult enough to exploit in capable private hands, and under present circumstances any Government would be likely to land in a muddle over it. But, like the note issue and the land tax, it is in the realm of the future. For the party's following generally, it was policy to include it. It is there simply as a statement of the party's ultimate programme. Taken altogether, the speech was not very satisfactory, and it bore the appearance of a statement that was made because it had to be made, and not because it gave the opportunity of unfolding an aggressive campaign, and of starting a great political fight. For the party can hardly live many months at the outside, and the speech bears every mark of being made with that knowledge.

Colonial "Dreadnoughts."

Rarely has there been a wilder attempt to whip up public opinion than in the proposal to present Britain with a "Dreadnought." To an extent the effort has been successful. The proposal originated simultaneously with a Melbourne and a Sydney newspaper, and was worked for all it was worth. Flaring headlines proclaimed the need of Britain for help, and the insinuation, and often more, that the German nation was waiting an opportunity to fly at the throat of the mother country. In Victoria and New South Wales the question was made the paramount one, and in several instances men who were taking a serious and thoughtful view of the question, anxious to do the right thing, were hurled by the press into the maelstrom. Indeed, it was as much as the public life of many men was worth to have quietly stated that they thought that the better plan of helping the mother country was to do something else than present a battleship to her. In the two States named, one of those paroxysms of blind fanaticism that shuts up legitimate opinion to one, and brands every other as spurious, seized the press. Then the fact that the Commonwealth Government did not approve of the

proposal made the question revolve round a new centre, and men who did not approve of the "Dreadnought" proposal lent their voices to the press cry to save a suspicion that they were friendly to the Labour Government. The Fisher Government was loudly proclaimed as being "the best friend the Germans had," with similar bosh ad inf. At the time of writing, when the enthusiasm has waned somewhat, and saner minds are beginning to question which is after all the wiser plan—present a "Dreadnought," or to help the mother country by building up a strong defence here, and largely increasing our subsidy—it has unfortunately come to be a question of for or against the Labour movement.

The Bond of Union.

This is, of course, lamentable. The question has not received thorough discussion. It was a case of "This is the way; join it, or by Heaven we'll brand you as traitors to the Empire." Now this is not figurative language. It explicitly and exactly describes what has been said. It is easy to see that in an atmosphere of that kind no healthy discussion can thrive. Out of the whirl, however, some solid facts emerge. First, Australia and New Zealand received a shock, as Britain seems to have done, at the news that other nations were speeding up their progress in the building of "Dreadnoughts." Second, every Australasian, without exception, felt the throb of loyalty, for the same kind of blood, charged with the same enthusiasm, pulsates through the veins of Britain's children as through her own. Nothing less than magnificent and thrilling was the feeling that rose all over the dependencies. It is probably unequalled anywhere in the world. It gave instant and unpremeditated proof that if the Empire were in danger, there would be no need for Britain to call to her children. They would be at her side before she could utter a cry for help. And that demonstration stands out from the chaos of bitter contentions as a priceless thing. Not once, nor twice, have the dependencies signified their wish to stand side by side with the mother country in her distresses, and this spontaneous uprising of strong feeling was but another of the demonstrations of loyalty that have sprung from our hearts. Perhaps the mere fact that we are ready to help and the proof of it is more to Britain than the mere gift of a warship of the biggest and best type. Who can say? If the feeling in Britain be anything akin to what it is here, it must give Britishers a warm confidence in the loyalty of the over-sea dominions. For the desire to help is here all right. From New Zealand to the West it runs without a break. The settler in the south of Tasmania before his autumn fireside, warmed to keep away the chill of coming winter, and the settler who basks in the never absent summer in the far North, alike in the breast of each throbs the warm feeling of passionate devotion to the Empire.

Cloudy Issues.

It is good to have felt it, to have known it. These are the things that will remain after the incident of the moment has passed by. The rising generation will remember it in days to come. Possibly in days to come, too, the issues will be clearer. To-day they are blurred and confused. The youthful mind, educated by a sensation-mongering press, can at the present time discern nothing clearly. Indeed, the present effect must necessarily be far from good. For from the possible need of the Empire, and the unmistakable loyalty of all parts of that Empire, has been developed the "Dreadnought" scheme, out of which a wild and somewhat successful attempt has been made to drag-net everyone into subscribing to it. "Traitors to the Empire," "Friends of the foreigner," "Anti-British"—these were a few of the epithets that were employed against those just as sincerely desirous of helping in any hour of need as the epithet-mongers themselves. But it is a matter that calls for reflection, as well as enthusiasm. Wild, whirling words are not going to settle it. Is Britain now, and in the long run, to be better served by presenting to her a battleship, or by increasing our subsidy and by beginning such a complete system of local defence that we shall be able to take our part if, regrettably, any needful circumstances should arise? If every member of the Australian Commonwealth had the problem set to him, and were given twenty-four hours in which to work it out alone, giving it due thought, and having regard to the exigencies of the future as well as the present, it is most likely that he would arrive at the local defence and increased subsidy solution. The "Dreadnought" section says that the issue should not be confused in that way; make the local defence, but give the "Dreadnought" as well. Now that might be decidedly the wisest thing to do if Britain were in extremis. Judging by the ravings of a section of the press, she is. The wildest statements have been made on this point, so wild that the average Britisher would smile if he could read them. Britain was in distress, and needed the outlying parts of the Empire to defend her! This, of course, is unadulterated bosh. Britain is not in need, and could do without our help. Nevertheless, as members of the great body of Empire, we must help and play our parts. This we are willing to do, to the very full. But the things that a gift of a "Dreadnought" presupposes are absent.

Our Clear Duty.

A gift of a "Dreadnought" throws the whole scene forward two years at least. The gift could not be made till then. That alters the complexion of the situation. Now a plan which provided for the instant offer of an increase of the naval subsidy, irrespective of the number of battleships stationed here, an instant increase, to be added to each year, and at the

same time the creation of an Australian navy, which would act as an excellent supplement to the British navy, would probably be more welcome than the "Dreadnought" proposal. It is granted at once that it would be less momentarily spectacular, for there is something even in the name of a "Dreadnought," or a "Formidable," or a "Dauntless," that expresses bigness and courage, and which stirs the emotions, but——. After all, we can only give the ship; we shall not man it, nor pay for its upkeep. An increased naval subsidy would pay for the constant manning and up-keep of many warships. This is clearly our duty, and to that we commit ourselves most unreservedly. But the present situation has not created the need. That has been there all along. Our subsidy has been pitifully small, considering the material advantages we receive. Think of them—adequate protection, which we could not provide alone, for our home is so extensive, and our guards are so few comparatively, the backing of the British Empire, national prestige—and we pay far below what we ought to do. Inability has been pleaded when some have broached increase, but that that is a matter of sentiment and not of fact, is evident from the fact that as soon as it pleases us, we can launch out into heavy expenditures. We yield to none in loyalty. We are keenly anxious that the present situation will result in a shouldering of our responsibilities—they ought to have been shouldered long ago—but we emphatically express the belief that an increase of the subsidy and an adequate local defence are the ways along which wisdom lies.

To Our Neighbours as Ourselves.

As far as the movement for a "Dreadnought" is concerned, it has unfortunately been made the vehicle for jingoistic passion. The responsibility of the Commonwealth—we put it that way in preference to the need of the motherland—could have been brought home powerfully, more powerfully, with graver and saner thought. We fear greatly that the real necessity, the recognition of the responsibility, will not come. A spasm, a self-congratulation, an example of loyalty to quote in days to come, these are the outstanding features. But another and a deeper evil will arise—has arisen—the race hatred that at any time needs no fanning, and that now has been deliberately and wickedly aroused. Unfortunate as may be the need for preparedness in conflict, the aim of responsible men should be to foster race love, so as to make war unnecessary. But the war spirit has been evoked mercilessly and needlessly, and the minds of the people have been set in enmity against others. More than that, we repeat, and want to emphasise it, this matter of national import has been turned into a political whip to lash the Government with. It is probable that in the Federal House, when it meets, members will be as clearly divided as Labour and anti-Labour distinctions can make them. It is probable also that over this question the Fisher Government will suffer defeat. Although, as very reader knows, we questioned sharply the methods of that party in coolly taking over office in a piratical and high-handed way, and without reason, just before recess, and have criticised the programme of the Prime Minister, it is belittling to Commonwealth politics to make an attack, as is intended, over a matter of this kind. As we said before, the question which ought to be national, has become miserably parochial, and unsavourily political. How greatly is the national idea of full responsibility in a great empire degraded when it is used merely as a club to beat a politician with.

A Want of Stamina.

The history of the business is a sorry one. Mr. Murray turned his coat over it, so did Mr. Wade. Both yielded to press clamour. The latter was specific in his belief that another plan would be better. Mr. Fisher refused to be drawn into the current, and was slang-whanged so viciously that the two Premiers shivered and dropped into the stream. Then they approached the Prime Minister, and intimated that if the Federal Parliament did not do the thing, the two States would. Indeed, Victoria went one better, and said that if the Federal Parliament wouldn't, and if New South Wales wouldn't, then she would do it herself. And she hurrahed her own wild fervour. But suppose that the Federal Government proposed to increase the naval subsidy by a million a year, and to ask the States to allow it to be deducted from the amount returnable to them. Victoria and New South Wales would be amongst the first to raise a war-whoop. And that is where the true test comes in. Fortunately the other States have been clearer-headed. Queensland, South Australia, West Australia and Tasmania have refused to be dragged or hunted into the stream, which is to their credit. All of these States are perfectly willing, as willing as Victoria and New South Wales, to do their full duty, and in the proper way.

The New Zealand Movement.

New Zealand led the way in the "Dreadnought" fashion. But we do not feel inclined to be critical of the Dominion. She is differently placed to Australia, has as yet a comparatively small population, and is even more dependent on the mother country than we need be. If that is the best way in which she can serve her interests, well and good, but we have a lurking kind of suspicion that a policy similar to that we have suggested, a much larger subsidy and local defence, would be much better. Besides which, it would have been better had Parliament been consulted. New Zealand is loyal to its heart's core.

It is superfluous to say so, but the loyalty would have been none the less had Parliament been allowed to say what it felt should be done. To offer an expenditure of two millions is a big stretch of administrative privileges on the part of any Government. Britain's guarded acceptance of the offer ought to give Australia pause, and to enquire privately whether after all this is the best way to show loyalty. Gifts may sometimes be inconvenient things especially if they are presented with the idea that they may increase the prestige of the giver. This has certainly been the case in Australia, whatever it may have been in New Zealand. It probably was not so there, being inspired by the purest patriotism. It is different when a second party goes equally or one better, so as to save his face. This was Australia's part.

The South Pole Expedition.

The return of Lieutenant Shackleton and his intrepid party from the South Pole regions was an event which was looked forward to with the keenest interest and some anxiety, and a feeling of relief was experienced when the return was heralded abroad. Lieutenant Shackleton may pride himself upon the accomplishment of so much. To have reached a point within 113 miles of the South Pole is a feat to be proud of, all the more so because he has rendered it possible for others to actually win the coveted prize. For he has shown how it can be done. Not the least praiseworthy part of the accomplishment is the fact that he did so much without the loss of any of his party. The foresight and method that omitted nothing and included everything necessary for the well-being of the expedition speaks volumes for the executive ability of the man at its head, and we can but express the hope that the way will be opened for Lieutenant Shackleton to be the first to reach the South Pole. Professor David, of the Sydney University, is to be congratulated upon reaching that strange and movable centre of mystic forces—the magnetic pole. The scientific achievements of the expedition will be valuable. One of the interesting facts noted was the presence of coal seams, indicating that at one time the polar region was in a more temperate clime. Already the idea of picnicking among the glaciers and bergs has been mooted, and indeed a visit to the South Pole regions during the Australian summer might prove a financial success.

The Broken Hill Trouble.

The Broken Hill trouble seems to thicken as time goes on. The validity of Judge Higgins' award is being tested before the High Court, on the ground that the Arbitration Court had no jurisdiction to deal with certain aspects of the case that came before it. It is unfortunate that the award was not accepted. Now the matter seems to be likely to be little more than a trial of strength. If the men had only accepted the offer of the company to put the difference in wages into a special fund pending a settlement of the case, it is probable that by this time the men would have received it, and the trouble would have been over. But the refusal of the men and their stoppage of work seemed to throw the whole of the conflicting interests into chaos, and it became a matter of each fighting for the advantage. If the award is not upheld, well, no one can prophesy what the outcome of it all is likely to be. The position has been somewhat complicated by the trial of Mann and others at Albury. The men have bitterly protested against the change of venue. They say that in a farming community the commital of the men is inevitable. On the other hand, had the trial been held in Broken Hill, a contrary judgment would have made the interests of the jurymen not worth a penny purchase. It may at once be conceded that a better place might have been found. Sydney even might have sufficed, although the Government may have considered the unwisdom of trying the case in a largely-populated place where riot might easily follow.

Injudicious Help.

The position is not being eased, but rather made more acute by the scurrilous remarks passed at meetings of the Labour Conference sitting in Sydney. In some countries, not necessarily Russia either, speedy arrest would have followed the wild harangues that incited to disorder and riot, but the Government was well advised in taking no notice of them. There have been threats that if Mann and the others are convicted, a general strike will take place. That is hardly likely to happen, especially seeing that the Sydney Council has had taken from it the power to call a general strike, which for a few short days it revelled in. The feeling has been rather intensified by the action of Mr. Thomas, the Postmaster General, who has been rather a puzzle to his best friends over the matter. Mr. Thomas is generally cool-headed and acute, but his rather injudicious comments on the arrest of Mann have been unworthy of his present position and his general good sense. Mr Thomas would do the workers a real service if he could free them from the influence and presence of the men who have led them into trouble. Mr. Thomas expresses the opinion that office would be too dearly bought if it meant silence. Of course it does not mean silence, but high office does certainly carry with it the responsibility of a man in office maintaining a just balance and refraining from speaking till the right moment comes.

Rana.] [Bologna.

EMPEROR JOSEPH: "Sixty-five million crowns for two skinny old geese! Isn't it a bargain?"

Minneapolis Journal.]

Sammy's New Toy.

Hindi Punch.] [Bombay.

Lord Morley's Present of Indian Reforms for "My Lady Hind."

CUBA REGAINS HER FREEDOM.

New York Herald.]

Jonathan cuts the Painter.

[*By permission of the "Strand Magazine."*]

MR. LLOYD GEORGE AS ADMIRAL NELSON.

Respectfully dedicated to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who is prepared to find the money for a Two-Power Standard Navy—if he may do it by instalments.

LONDON, March 1st, 1909.

The Event of the Month.

The event of the month in Great Britain has been the unanimous solemn, formal and public confession of the utter and hopeless failure of the attempt, persisted in for seventy years, to give practical effect to a small collectivist Socialist ideal on democratic principles. Long before Socialism had made its appearance in politics the English Poor Law possessed a world-wide fame as the most conspicuous illustration of Socialism in practical administration. The State, acting through elected representative bodies, undertook to house, board, and provide for the destitute members of the community at the cost of the more thrifty and more prosperous. The task was one of moderate dimensions, and the whole resources of the nation were available for its performance. Some 750,000 persons —men, women, and children—are at this moment fed from day to day at the cost of the community. The local authorities charged with this duty are fair average samples of the middle and higher classes, they are elected by the householders, and they have had a budget of £14,000,000 at their command. They have had the advantage of the constant supervision of the Local Government Board and the criticism of a free Press. With what result? The Majority and the Minority Reports of the Poor Law Commission agree in confessing that the experiment has been such a disastrous failure, both moral and economic, as to demand the abolition of the whole system. They differ as to what should take its place. They agree that the present system must go.

The Moral of this Confession.

The moral of this startling confession is clear. Whether or not it may be possible to work a system of collectivist administration by means of a highly centralised despotic bureaucracy, he attempts to manage Socialism, even on the small scale and under the conditions on which it is applied under the Poor Law, cannot be worked successfully on democratic lines. The Boards of Guardians, with all their faults, are typical of the nation that elected them. In the Reports of the Commission we have the story told at length of how utterly they have failed. Imagine what would happen if similar bodies of men were entrusted with the management on collectivist principles of the lives, not of 750,000 paupers, but of 40,000,000 inhabitants of these islands! Doubtless the fact that in one case we are dealing with paupers—persons disfranchised and degraded and regarded only as destitute beings—and in the other with free, self-governing citizens, makes a considerable difference; it may make all the difference. But we have also to imagine what kind of a hopeless mess they would make of things if, instead of being able to finance themselves by levying a rate, they had to direct all the means whereby the population earned its daily bread. The Majority Report recommends an increase of the authority of the Central Government and the transfer of the local administration to non-elected bodies. It is a long step towards the establishment of the despotism of the Tchinovnik.

The Event of the Month Abroad.

If the event of the month at home has been the publication of a Report condemning our system of free local self-government, the event of the month abroad has been the revelation of the ultimate development of bureaucratic rule in Russia. If the workhouse nursery with its twenty infants placed under the care of a pauper imbecile is the last word of the inefficiency of English administration, the existence of Azeff is the last word as to the outcome of an omnipotent bureaucracy. Azeff was a penniless Jew of dissolute

habits, who succeeded in worming himself into the confidence alike of the Terrorists and of the police, and for several years played with marvellous success the opposing *rôles* of the instigator of murder and the detecter of plots. Mr Chesterton's extravagant fantasy, "The Man who was Thursday," in which all the members of a Terrorist Committee turn out to be detectives in disguise, was not more extravagant and incredible than is the story of Azeff. But the employment of assassins as agents of the police is simply the logical outcome of the system which substitutes the authority of the Tchinovnik for the free although slovenly administration of the elected representatives of the people. No doubt Mr. Sidney Webb, or, still better, Mr and Mrs. Sidney Webb, would administer Poor Relief much more consistently and much more logically if they were made the sole authority with absolute power; but before long despotism, even the despotism of the administrative expert, would generate its Azeffs, and Azeffs are too high a price to pay even for improved efficiency in local administration.

Eugene P. Azeff,
Of the Russian Secret Service, who has mysteriously disappeared.

The Opening of Parliament.

Parliament reassembled on February 16th. The King's Speech was long and dull. The debates on the Address on the first night were longer and duller than usual. The only surprise was the promise of a Bill for the Disestablishment of the Church in Wales. This was probably a concession to the Welsh members—a nominal concession, because it is inconceivable that Ministers really intend to waste the time of the House of Commons upon a Bill which is certain to be thrown out by the House of Lords. The other Ministerial proposals show a salutary awe of the House of Lords, which is now the predominant partner in the Imperial Legislature. There is no mention of an Education Bill or of a Licensing Bill. The Town-Planning and Irish Land Bills are to be revived together with the following new Bills:—

A Labour Exchange Bill.
A Sweating Boards Bill.
A Registration and Elections Bill for London.
A Scottish Fish Bill.
An Old Age Pension Amendment Bill.
A Bill for Reforming Inebriates.
A Bill regulating the Supply of Milk.
A Shop Hours Bill.

The chief business of the Session it is recognised will be financial.

Ministerial Strategy.

Ministers are understood to have decided to avoid any challenging of the usurpation of the Peers until next Session, for reasons which Mr. Asquith set forth in his reply to Mr. Ponsonby, who was all for instant action. This year they are going to try to confine themselves to carry Bills to which Mr. Balfour will give a free pass through his trusty henchmen in another place. It is to be an uncontentious Session devoted

[Photograph by] [*Illustrations Bureau.*

Mrs. McKenna.

Wife of the First Lord of the Admiralty, who gave the official Liberal Reception on the occasion of the opening of Parliament.

to humdrum, useful legislation on which everyone is more or less agreed. Then, having thus cleared the decks, they will next Session bring in all their old rejected Bills and some others that they know will be rejected, pass them through the Commons with huge majorities, and then challenge the Peers to reject them. If the Peers respond by unceremoniously pitching the Liberal Bills into the gutter, then Mr. Asquith is to sound the slogan and summon all the allies—Liberals, Radicals, Labour men, Socialists, and Nationalists—to go with him to the country on the issue whether the country is to be governed by the Peers or by the People. It is a very pretty plan of campaign. But these programmes in advance are seldom carried out. Mr. Burns is already prophesying that the Parliament will last three years longer, which does not look very much as if Ministers had quite settled to dissolve next year. Whether they dissolve next year or the year after, until they do dissolve the House of Lords will be the master of the situation.

The Debate on the Address.

The Opposition made two frontal attacks upon the Ministry without in the least impairing the solidity and cohesion of the Liberal phalanx. The amendment on Tariff Reform afforded Mr. Balfour another opportunity of displaying his sovereign contempt for the delusions which nourish the enthusiasm of his Protectionist followers. It is now admitted by the Tariff Reformers themselves that their earlier pretension that it would not be necessary to tax food under their system was fallacious. When they come in, if they come in, these Protectionists in disguise mean to clap taxes on corn and meat, to make the food of the British workman dearer in order to increase a little the bonus which Nature has already given to the farmers of Saskatchewan. The second amendment impeached the Irish policy of Mr. Birrell. The delay in settling the land question is producing the usual crop of agrarian offences in certain districts. Cattle-driving and boycotting have increased, are increasing, and will continue to increase, until a settlement has been arrived at. It is with the Irish as it is with the Suffragettes. If they allowed the sinners to be at ease in Zion they would never be able to secure a hearing for their grievances. They have got to keep the pot boiling somehow or other. And it is very satisfactory that up till now, with a few lamentable exceptions, they have managed to keep the pot from boiling over. The Tariff Reform amendment was rejected by 276 to 107, the Irish vote of censure by 336 to 118. The Irish abstained from voting on the Tariff Reform amendment. The Nationalist vote is in the market and will be sold to the highest bidder.

Other Amendments.

The Labour Party moved an amendment declaring the proposals foreshadowed by the Government for dealing with unemployment to be inadequate. The debate brought back John Burns's old fighting form. If Mr. Burns does sometimes strike an attitude when face to face with the criticisms of the Labour Party, as if he were Ajax defying the lightning, much may be forgiven so cheery, so plucky, and so entirely self-satisfied a combatant. One can hardly help being pleased with a Minister who is so thoroughly well pleased with himself, not without cause. Mr. Barnes's amendment was rejected by 205 votes to 101. Mr. Mackarness moved an amendment censuring the Indian Government for the high-handed way in which it arrested and deported its political opponents without giving them a chance of being heard in their own defence. It was curious to hear Lord Morley's representative justifying this exercise of the power of arbitrary arrest and deportation in India. The *Pall Mall Gazette* articles which "downed" Mr. Forster for acting in a similar arbitrary fashion in Ireland might be reprinted with advantage, if only to illustrate how circumstances alter cases. "Force is no Remedy" in 1881, but it seems to be a mighty present help in time of need in India. Mr. Mackarness's amendment was rejected by 195 votes to 75. Mr. Claude Hay's amendment condemning the way in which the Aliens Act is being administered met with a not less hostile reception. It was rejected by 208 to 82.

The Indian Reform Bill.

Lord Morley lost no time in bringing forward his Indian Councils Bill. After two days' debate it was read a second time on February 24. Lord Morley made use of a curious but significant phrase. While protesting against the doctrine that no native, however competent, should ever be admitted to the Viceroy's Council, Lord Morley spoke of the Indians as "the King's equal subjects." The phrase is a good one, not because it is true, but because it expresses what ought to be true. If the Anglo-Indian official, and especially his womenfolk, could realise that the Indians are "equal subjects" of the King and entitled to be treated as such, a good deal of the trouble in India would disappear. Lord Curzon, Lord Macdonnell, and Lord Lansdowne all deprecated even such a small concession to equality of subjecthood as is contained in Lord

Hindi Punch.

Ready to Sting.

This cartoon, from a Hindu paper, is intended to represent the way in which Anglo-Indian bureaucrats are allowed to fulminate in large type in the London *Times* against the reforms promised by Lord Morley.

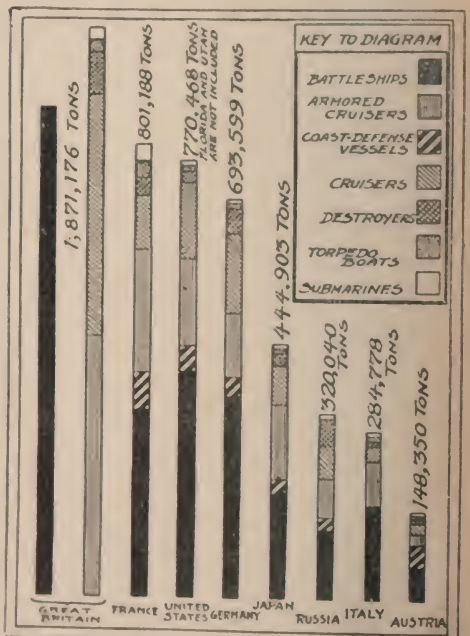
Morley's Bill. Lord Macdonnell perpetrated one extraordinary Irish bull by declaring that the Viceroy's Council would lose the confidence of the natives and the Princes of India if a "foreign element" were introduced in the shape of a native of India. That Irish bull is nearer the truth of things than Lord Morley's phrase about "equal subjects." For in the opinion of Anglo-Indiandom the native is a foreigner in his own country, and as long as that insolent inversion of facts prevails in the Imperial service, no one can wonder at the prevalence of native discontent. No man can tolerate being treated as a foreigner in his own native land—not even if his skin be dark.

Lord Esher's Success.

When Lord Esher saw the play, "An Englishman's Home," the idea seized him of utilising the impression it was making on the public as a means of filling up the *cadre* of the territorial regiments in London. Fired with this idea, he got the *Daily Mail* to launch the "Terriers", a kind of Military Revival Mission was carried on in the music-halls and in the *Daily Mail*, the Territorials, with banners and bands, marched through the streets every Saturday, and hey, presto! the 11,000 men needed rallied to the standard, and the thing was done. Query: Did "An Englishman's Home" play any part in the recruiting beyond its effect on Lord Esher? And would not the recruiting have been just as successful if some other jumping-off point than the play had been chosen? These are idle questions, but it may turn out that the discovery by the nation of the value of Lord Esher is a more valuable asset even than the raising of the 11,000 "Terriers."

Six "Dreadnoughts," or Four?

If current rumour spoke the truth, Ministers were much exercised all last month by a difference of opinion as to the number of *Dreadnoughts* it was necessary to lay down to keep up the Two-Power standard. According to popular report Mr. Winston Churchill, emulating the exploit by which his father brought his career to an inglorious end, was determined to resign rather than consent to the building of six new *Dreadnoughts*. Four might be laid down, but no more. He was said to be supported in this attitude by Mr. Lloyd George,



[From the *Literary Digest*] [New York.

Comparative Naval Strength of the Powers,

Showing the tonnage of the ships built and building in each Navy.

From a diagram in the report of the House Naval Committee.

Lord Morley, Mr. John Burns, and Mr. Lewis Harcourt. On the other hand, Mr. McKenna, the First Lord of the Admiralty, Sir Edward Grey, Mr. Haldane, Lord Crewe, and all the rest of the Cabinet insisted upon six. For a time the battle raged round this question of six or four. Finally, a compromise appears to have been effected, by which the unity of the Cabinet was saved without imperilling the Two-Power standard. The fight was hollow from start to finish. The mutineers knew perfectly well that the six ships would have to be built if the Germans carried out their programme. They professed to doubt whether the Germans would do this; but as they had information, not possessed by the public, that the Germans were four ships ahead of their programme, their stickling for a nominal four suggests that they are more anxious to save their face than to safeguard the interests of the country.

What are the Facts?

It is difficult to make the British public realise that the old comfortable delusion as to the superior speed of shipbuilding in this country is exploded. But that is a fact. The Germans can build as fast as we can. So that the hare will have to put his best foot foremost if he is not to be outstripped by the tortoise, now endowed with equal speed. Further, the Germans have 50 per cent. more slipways on which *Dreadnoughts* can be laid down than we possess. And what is more serious than anything else, instead of lagging behind in the execution of their programme, they have forged ahead and have laid down four *Dreadnoughts* twelve months in advance of their programme on the plea of providing work for their unemployed. Of course, we have nothing whatever to say to the Germans, who would be well within their rights if they laid down fifty *Dreadnoughts*. But when English politicians and English journalists base their plea for cutting down a standard of naval construction which the Admiralty unanimously declare to be the irreducible minimum necessary to keep up the Two-Power standard, upon the delusion that the Germans cannot do what they are actually doing, and will not do that which they have already accomplished, it is necessary to insist upon the facts. The mischief of all these protests against the building of the necessary ships is not that the ships will not be built, but that the moral effect of building them is largely destroyed. If we kept on building two keels to the German one, with the imperturbable regularity of a law of nature, the German Navy League would find much less response to its appeals for fresh sacrifices than it is able to elicit to-day when it points triumphantly to the opposition of the minority in the Cabinet as a proof that England is getting tired out. "One more spurt and the victory is ours!"

Lord Charles Beresford.

It is with a sense of profound relief we heard of the approaching retirement of Lord Charles Beresford from the command of the Channel Fleet. Lord Charles has many excellent qualities which qualify him admirably for the first rank among "circus admirals"—to vary the expressive phrase which the Boers applied to General Baden-Powell—but he has the defects of his qualities. These defects, arising from an overweening sense of his own importance, became at last incompatible with the maintenance of the proper relations which should exist between the Board of Admiralty and an admiral in command at sea. When two men ride on horseback, says the old proverb, one must ride behind. Lord Charles never could realise that he might be that one. Hence arose a state of friction which was at once a scandal and a danger to the Service. Fortunately it is now at an end. Lord Charles Beresford, after striking his flag, will probably find a more congenial field for his talents in the House of Commons, which has always a keen relish for the breezy, bracing, slap-dash eloquence of the quarter-deck.

Photograph by [*Russell and Sons.*

Admiral Sir William May.

Appointed to command every ship in commission in British waters.

Airships at Home and Abroad.

Mr. Balfour and the King of Spain have been admiring spectators of Mr. Wilbur Wright's aviation at Pau. The King was forbidden to take a seat in the aëroplane by his wife. Mr. Balfour was restrained by considerations of his

duty to a party which, without him, would be about as helpless as a decapitated fowl. Colonel Cody has actually succeeded in getting the aeroplane of the British Government off the ground, up in the air, and down again without breaking any bones. Mr. Winston Churchill is said to have very advanced ideas about the importance of aeroplanes. M. D'Estournelles de Constant insists that they are the great weapon of defence for the small State. It is a pity the Servians have not a few in stock. It is believed that the policy in favour at the War Office is for the Government to build airships, but to leave the supply of aeroplanes to private enterprise. The next wonder of the world is going to be a flying hydroplane, which will weigh twelve tons, rise into the air from the sea level, flying at forty-five miles an hour, dropping back into the water when it pleases. This hydro-aeroplane is likely to become a very formidable auxiliary to the battle-fleet of the future.

Photograph by [*Halftones, Ltd.*

King Edward in a Merry Mood

The King is here shown saying farewell to the officers of the First Dragoon Guards, of which he is Hon. Colonel, and with whom he lunched when in Berlin.

"Suffering it up."

The quaint phrase "suffering it up," employed to describe the tactics of wresting success from adverse Fate by the patient endurance of martyrdom, continues to describe the policy of the Suffragettes. On the 25th ult. another batch of women, headed by Mrs. Pethwick Lawrence, wife of an ex-Member of Parliament, went joyfully to gaol for terms of one and two months' imprisonment in order to testify to the earnestness with which they demand admission within the pale of the Constitution. To Lady Constance Bulwer-Lytton belongs the distinction of being the first Earl's sister to go to prison in the good cause. With her went Miss Solomon, daughter of a former Prime Minister of the Cape. To Miss Dugdale, cousin of the newly elected Member for Taunton, belongs the honour of having been the first to shed her blood in the cause. It was only a bloody nose due to a blow from a constable's fist; but it was first blood all the same—first but not the last by a long way. For this agitation will inevitably result in bloodshed sooner or later. Some woman will be ridden down by the police or trodden under foot by the mob, or done to death in some other way. The sacred thirst for martyrdom is upon these ladies, and the prospect of death allures rather than deters.

The Health of the King.

The King's visit to Berlin was marred by a severe cold which excited some alarm among the members of his Court. His Majesty suffers from smoker's sore throat, and is liable to bronchial inflammation, which at times brings on fits of

coughing so severe as to necessitate the inhalation of oxygen. The King, however, has a marvellous recuperative power, and he was soon himself again. He is now off to Biarritz to escape the March winds. It might be as well if he went South a little earlier. Parliament had better be opened by Royal Commission than that the health of the King should be endangered by the bleak winds of February.

The Royal Visit to Berlin.

The Royal visit to Berlin passed off very well. The Kaiser, who laid himself out to captivate the Queen, appears to have succeeded beyond expectation. Lord Crewe, who accompanied the Royal party, testified publicly as to the excellent spirit which prevailed in Berlin. Sir Charles Hardinge, travelling not as Under Secretary of the Foreign Office, but as a member of the King's suite, nevertheless acted as Under Secretary in his interviews "under the instructions of the Secretary of State." Mr. MacNeill badgered Sir Edward Grey with questions as to the exact status of Sir Charles Hardinge, with a slightly confusing result. Sir Charles did not attend the King in his capacity as Under Secretary. But when he ceased for the moment to attend the King as a member of the King's suite, he put in his time by interviewing Kaisers and Chancellors as Under Secretary under the instructions of Sir Edward Grey. An Englishman can perhaps thread his way through this explanation, but to a foreigner it must seem a hopeless tangle. Germans believe the King is his own Foreign Secretary, and that Sir C. Hardinge is his clerk. That is one reason why in future Sir C. Hardinge should be left at home.

The Anglo-German Rapprochement.

The visit of the King is to be followed up by the visit of an influential group of Labour members who are to spend Whitsuntide in Germany. They are already assured of a warm welcome, and they will come back, like everybody else, deeply impressed with the friendly disposition of the German people. That disposition is not affected by the fact that the British Fleet has been thrice as strong as that of Germany, is now thrice as strong, and is going to be kept in future twice as strong. Two British keels to one German instead of three or four, is an immense surrender. Beyond that, however, we cannot go, and, what is more, the great body of peace-loving Germans do not wish us to go, for nothing would weaken their ability to keep their own fire-eaters in check so much as a suspicion that we were flinching from the sacrifices involved in the maintenance of the two keels to one standard. Another welcome illustration of the good feeling prevailing in Germany towards this country is afforded

Photograph by [*Topical Press.*

King and Kaiser: The Burgomaster of Berlin reading the Address of Welcome.

by the enthusiastic reception given to Madame Illing in her efforts to use the theatre as an instrument of international goodwill. Madame Illing, it will be remembered, is the well-known German actress who came over to England last year to arrange for the visit of an English company to perform English plays in the German cities. Most of the great towns in Germany have formed committees of honour to forward this commendable scheme, raising guarantee funds, and promising their patronage. In May Madame Illing hopes to open at Wiesbaden for a fortnight's tour, but her winter season will begin in October. I heartily congratulate Madame Illing upon the *Elan* with which she has thrown herself into the achievement of her admirable aspiration, which I am glad to hear has the hearty approval of all the best elements in Germany from the Emperor downwards.

The Franco-German Entente in Morocco.

On the very eve of the King's visit to Berlin the French and German Governments signed an agreement about Morocco which is so eminently sensible that everyone wonders why it was not concluded two years ago. France declares her determination to safeguard economic equality in Morocco, and therefore pledges herself not to impede German commercial and industrial interests, while Germany, recognising that the particular political interests of France are closely bound up with the consolidation of internal order and peace, declares her resolve not to impede these interests, and to abjure all attempts to secure economic privilege. Both Powers profess themselves satisfied, but no one has explained why Europe was kept in suspense for two years about a question which so simple a formula can satisfy. What a gain it would be if all the Governments would sign a treaty relating to all the rest of the world, guaranteeing the universal open door and pledging themselves not to seek preferential economic privileges in any part of the world!

The Austro-Servian Crisis.

The situation at Belgrade is regarded as being very acute. The Servians do not ask for any compensation for the annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Assent to that annexation is not to be bought by anything Austria can offer. They ask that Austria shall give Home Rule to her newly annexed Servian subjects, not as compensation to Servia, but as an act of justice to the Bosnians. They ask that Servia and Montenegro shall be allowed to join hands in order to be able to safeguard their liberty and independence in view of the advance of the Austrian frontier to the Sandjak of Novi Bazar. And Austria says she will give them nothing—will promise nothing—except to give them "a d——d good hiding if you don't stop that nonsense and keep quiet." Servia has reconstituted her Ministry and mournfully prepares for war. She will not attack Austria. But if Austria attacks her, she will evacuate Belgrade, fall back upon her hills and her forests, and make the path of the invader as difficult as possible. Austria complains that she has to spend £40,000 per day in increased military expenditure on account of her distrust of Servian military preparations. She had better go on spending £40,000 a day if she feels uneasy, than plunge into the incalculable risks of a Servian war. But why spend this money? Servia is not going to attack Austria—unless Austria breaks up on Francis Joseph's death, and in that case Austria will need her troops elsewhere. Austria under German encouragement is disposed to take a very high and mighty line, not only towards Servia, but also to the friendly Powers who wish to save her from a war which might begin in Servia, but certainly would not end there. *Quos Deus vult perdere prius dementat.*

The Brer Rabbit of Bulgaria.

Was there ever so cunning and so artful a customer as Ferdinand of Coburg? He is the veritable Brer Rabbit of the Balkans. Last year he jockeyed Austria into guaranteeing in advance his declaration of independence, and last month he even more adroitly jockeyed Russia into a provisional recognition of his illegal usurpation of the status of an independent sovereign. Brer Rabbit is mighty slim, as Uncle Remus might say, but in his last stroke death and the grave fought in his favour. When the Grand Duke Vladimir died, Ferdinand remembered that he was a relative by marriage of the Grand Duchess, and that it was his duty to attend the funeral. The Grand Duke had also taken part in the war which liberated Bulgaria, an additional reason why he should pay a last tribute to his remains. So off he set for St. Petersburg, compelling the Russian Government to face and settle, in advance of the coming conference, the vital question of his status. M. Isvolsky seems to have seized the opportunity with considerable adroitness. He recognised Ferdinand provisionally and without prejudice, solely as a matter of etiquette, as if he possessed the sovereignty which he had usurped. Sovereign *de facto* Ferdinand undoubtedly is. Sovereign *de jure* he is not. But his rush to St. Petersburg secured his recognition as a

sovereign as a matter of etiquette, without prejudicing the rights of the signatory Powers to discuss the whole question from the point of view of international law. Very clever of M. Isvolsky, but how smart of Brer Rabbit Ferdinand!

The Fall of the Grand Vizier.

Who is the real ruler of the Ottoman Empire? It will be remembered that King Edward sent a telegram to Abdul Hamid telling him that Turkey would prosper so long as Kiamil Pasha directed its policy. Kiamil Pasha has now been relegated to private life, but not by Abdul Hamid. The Sultan seems to be powerless. Nominally responsible for the government of the Ottoman Empire, all power seems to be lodged in the hands of the Committee of Union and Progress. The cause of Kiamil's downfall was his dismissal of the Minister of War and the Minister of the Navy, two Ministers whom he regarded as the tools of the Committee. This attempt to emancipate himself from the control of an irresponsible group of revolutionists naturally excited their alarm. The Parliament by 198 votes to 8 censured Kiamil for "leaving the country in doubt regarding the external and internal situation, thereby imperilling its liberties and its Constitution." So Kiamil fell, and Hassim Hilmi Pasha became Grand Vizier in his stead. The old dismissed Ministers resumed their portfolios. The Committee of Union and Progress protest that although Kiamil's "unconstitutional acts" compelled them to overthrow him, they intend to pursue as faithfully as before the pro-English policy, and therefore appeal for our sympathies. Clearly they think the time has come for another Edwardian telegram.

Persia.

It is to be hoped that the Russian Minister to Teheran, M. Pokhovetsky — who is now acting as Chargé d'Affaires at the London Embassy—will speedily be on his way to his new post. The situation there is too critical to be left to the chance that Colonel Liakhoff and his Cossacks may not compromise Russia. The Foreign Offices in London and St. Petersburg are in absolute accord. But it is not M. Isvolsky and Sir Edward Grey who will settle things. It is the men on the spot who will make or mar the *entente*. Sir Edward Grey's attitude, as explained by himself in reply to Mr. Dillon's question, is that while we would much rather abstain entirely from any intervention in the internal affairs of Persia, we were prepared to co-operate with the Russian Government in advising the Shah to elaborate at once a scheme of elective Government, backed by the intimation that "unless a form of constitutional Government is granted he will get no support of any kind from the British and Russian Governments, who would take measures to safeguard their interests." Does that mean the Russian Government will withdraw Colonel Liakhoff, whose words and actions, as recorded in a pamphlet published last month, certainly seem to justify such a measure, or does it mean that if the Shah proves recalcitrant Russia with our assent will occupy and administer Northern Persia, or, at least, will send a small expeditionary force to restore order in Tabriz? The situation is serious. Someone will have to bell the cat some day, and as we are not in a position to assist actively, we may any day be called upon to give our benediction to a Russian military operation which may have very serious results.

"Great South Africa."

Sir Robert Morier used to say Bismarck had "made his country great and his countrymen little." If Olive Schreiner is to be believed, this is likely to be the net result of the unification of South Africa, over which there has been much jubilation in the Press, both at home and in the new Dominion. For she fears the union of the various States will lead to the substitution of the Boer for the British idea of the rights of the natives. I hope she is wrong. For the moment everything seems *couleur de rose*. Dr. Jameson proposed the restoration of the old name of the Orange Free State, and it was a British delegate who proposed that the Dutch and English languages should have absolute equality of privilege. Sir Lewis Michell and Dr. Jameson have both been delighted to discover what a statesman and patriot South Africa produced in Dr. Steyn. The British delegates found General Botha, Dr. Smuts, and the Boer Generals to be as good men as themselves, and perhaps better; and so all has gone as merry as a marriage bell. Even the Tories have been constrained to admit that the pro-Boer policy of the present Government has been justified by results. Lord Milner, of course, sees nothing but evil in the reversal of his policy, but he has gone to Egypt to meditate at the other end of Africa upon the perversity of Fate.

The Lincoln Centenary.

The Americans have been celebrating the centenary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln. It is much to be regretted that there was no attempt made to commemorate the hundredth anniversary of the birth of so great a man on this side

of the Atlantic. The United States of America produced Abraham Lincoln—

> The kindly-earnest, brave, foreseeing man,
> Sagacious, patient, dreading praise, not blame—
> New birth of our new soil, the first American.

But wherever he was born, he was an English-speaking man—perhaps the most nobly eloquent of all who have spoken our language. Why should the geographical accident of his birth across the Atlantic make us feel that he is less our own than if he had been born in Kent? Washington and Lincoln—we ought to have statues to these heroes in the capital of the Empire.

Mr. Roosevelt on His Travels.

When these pages meet the reader's eye President Taft will be in occupation of the White House, and ex-President Roosevelt will be taking leave of his native land for a two years' trip abroad. Leaving New York on March 13th, he will arrive at Mombasa at the end of April with a shipload of newspaper writers and artists and photographers. Travelling by the East African Railway to Nairobi, he will make that place his headquarters for six months. He will then go on to the Victoria Nyanza, cross Uganda by caravan, and, descending the Nile, will come out at Khartoum April, 1911. He proposes to tour Europe for a twelvemonth, lecturing and sightseeing so that it will be two years before he is back in America. He is accompanied by his son, Kermit, and three American naturalists, for the expedition is not for butchery. While Mr. Roosevelt is hunting the wild beasts a regiment of American "specials" will be hunting him. Uganda and the British East African Protectorate are likely to get the greatest newspaper advertisement ever given free to a British Colony.

The By-Elections.

A General Election on a small scale is in progress in Scotland. Mr. Thomas Shaw, surrendering the Lord Advocateship and the seat for Hawick, has become a Lord Justice of Appeal in place of Lord Robertson. It is little short of a public calamity that one of the soundest, sturdiest, and most trustworthy of Radical members should be thus extinguished by the coronet of a peer and the ermine of a judge. Mr. Shaw was not sixty, and had a dozen years' fight in him yet. The death of Sir A. Torrance created a vacancy for Central Glasgow, which is being contested between Mr. T. Gibson Bowles, who stands as a Liberal, and Mr. Dickson, an unknown Unionist. I remember as if it were yesterday Mr. Bowles's *début* as a Parliamentary candidate. It was in 1874. He stood as a Tory for Darlington, and polled 303 votes against over 3,000 given to the Liberal candidates. Mr. Sinclair's acceptance

Photograph by [illegible] *Special Agency.*

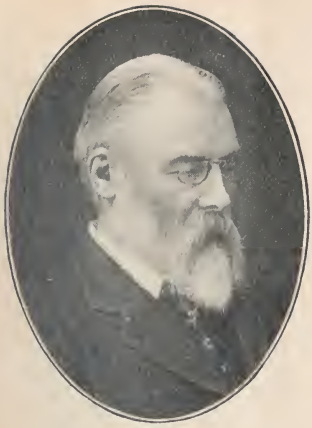
General Booth.

The portrait was taken subsequent to the operation on his eyes. The General will celebrate his eightieth birthday next month.

Photograph by [*C. Vandyk.*]

The Right Rev. the Bishop of Colchester.

Consecrated at Lambeth last month.



Photograph by [*Langfier, Ltd.*

The late Sir F. Wills.
Of the great tobacco company at Bristol.

of a peerage created a vacancy in Forfarshire, and Mr. Dewar's appointment as Solicitor-General in place of Mr. Ure, who succeeded Mr. Shaw as Lord Advocate, necessitated a by-election in South Edinburgh. There has been only one by-election in the South, the Liberals not venturing to contest Taunton. Mr. Frank Smith started as a Socialist and achieved a very notable and significant success. In 1906 the Liberals polled 1,503 votes as against 1,842 given to the Unionist. Last month Mr. Frank Smith actually polled 1,085 votes, so that a Socialist polled two-thirds of the total recorded by the Liberals last Election. If we remember what kind of a place Taunton is, the fact that only 500 Liberals refused to vote Socialist in this by-election will appear significant indeed.

away last month—Sir F. Wills, the great tobacconist of Bristol; Lord Burton, who once was Bass; and Mr. Pears. Tobacco, beer, and soap have seldom had more respectable and respected representatives. They built up large fortunes during their lives, and by their death they will contribute substantial sums for the reduction of Mr. Lloyd George's deficit. Two of them at any rate were Free Traders, with the natural impatience of the successful man of business at the molly-coddling policies of tariff reformers. Of the three, Mr. Pears probably contributed more to popular education than either of the others. The three millions which have been spent in advertising Pears' soap have really been a popular endowment of journalism and periodical literature. The advertiser is the modern Mæcenas. Mr. Pears has gone; but as his Grand Vizier, Mr. Barrett, still reigns in New Oxford Street, there will be no change in the liberal policy of publicity which has been the secret of the fortunes of Pears, Ltd.

Photograph by [*Elliott and Fry.*

The late Lord Burton.
Director of the famous brewing firm of Bass and Co.

Three Kings of British Commerce.

Three men whose names have long been household words in the ears of all English-speaking men passed

The late Mr. Andrew Pears, J.P.

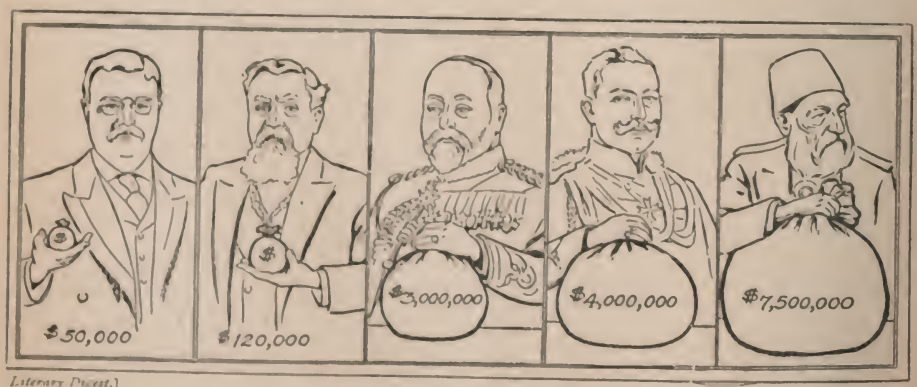
CURRENT HISTORY IN CARICATURE.

"O wad some power the giftie gie us,
To see oursels as ithers see us."—BURNS.

By permission of the proprietors of "Punch."

Welcome!

BRITANNIA (preparing to introduce United South Africa to Canada and Australia): "Here comes your new cousin."



Literary Digest.]

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT. PRESIDENT FALLIÈRES. KING EDWARD. EMPEROR WILLIAM. ABDUL HAMID.

The Effect of the Absence of a Wage Scale.

Le Rire.] [Paris.

The Visit to Berlin.

EDWARD: "What a charming fellow he would be if only he wouldn't bother about politics!"

Kladderadatsch.] [Berlin.

The Royal Visitor.

NEPHEW: "What have you got in your pocket, Uncle?"
UNCLE: "Europe!"

New York Press.]

[*Atlanta Constitution.*

A Friend in Need, but a Costly One.

"Hi, mister, let me get under that too." "Stand and Deliver."

[Westminster Gazette]

Once on Board the Lugger.

PIRATE: "Once on board the lugger and you will be mine!"
MR. BALFOUR: "Thank you very much, but I'm not quite sure yet whether I want to."

[Pasquino.] [Turin.

KAISER (to Chancellor): "Do you understand? In future you also are to hold your tongue."

[Sun.] [Baltimore.

Roosevelt's Legacy.

Just a little "Unfinished Business" for Congress.

[Pasquino.] [Turin.

King Edward in Berlin.

EDWARD: "I fancied I heard a voice in the night like an earthquake?"
FOOTMAN: "That is easily explained, your Majesty: The Emperor had a conversation with Prince Bülow."

[Wahre Jacob.] [Stuttgart.

The German's Money-boxes.

GERMAN PEASANT: "These strong boxes are magnificent, but how am I ever going to fill them?"

Westminster Gazette.]

Mr. Wyndham-Mantalini.

"Tons or hundredweights? What's the dem'd difference?"

By permission of the proprietors of "Punch."]

The Hot End of the Wedge; or, the Beginning of Retaliation.

LLOYD GEORGE: "It's the poker I borrowed off you. Don't you like it?"
PANTALOON: "Yes. But not this end of it!"

Wahre Jacob.] [Stuttgart.

The Peace Bell.

It will not ring in the Balkans, too many ringers are pulling at the ropes.

Kladeradatsch.] [Berlin.

On Board H.M.S. "Berlin."

THE DIPLOMATS ON THE BRIDGE.: "There; at last we have got him on board! But it was a tough job; and how many kilometres of rose chains have we not had to use!"

[With apologies to *Punch*.

Fiscal Education.

FARMER CHAPLIN (to Unionist Tariff Wobbler): "What on earth be at, messin' about all over the place like this?"

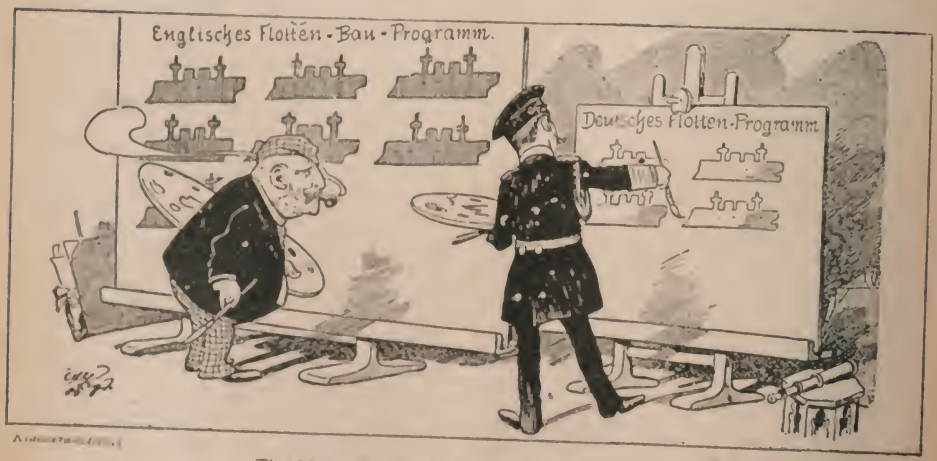
PLOUGHMAN: "Wull, you told I to look to that cow, and go straight to it, an' I bin tryin' to foller thic ther cow till I be tired, an' now I be waiting for 'er to settle down!"

[The Unionists who are inclined to wobble on Tariff "Reform" all declare that they are following Mr. Balfour.]

[Vienna.

The European Pastrycook.

The Hare (instead of waiting to be cooked) has gone off with the cake (Bosnia-Herzegovina).



[Berlin.

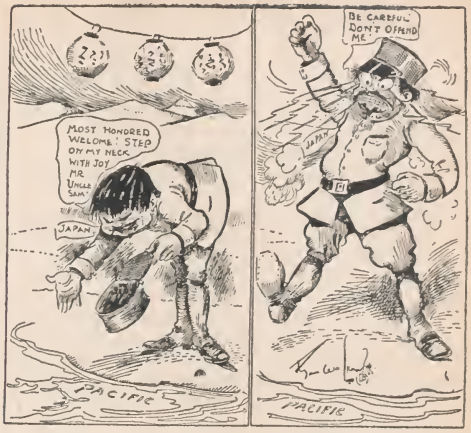
The Marine Painters of England and Germany.

UNCLE EDWARD (to William): "Your little marine masterpiece is too ambitious; keep it as a study."

Tokyo Puck.]

Labour Jealousy.

The stupid American labourers, says the Japanese cartoonist, would not allow the yellow people to tread on the same ground. But the President and other wise statesmen would not permit such an outrage.



Bryan Walker.]

Japan and America.

Attitude of Japan when the U.S.A. fleet was in the Pacific Ocean, and afterwards when it had returned to Atlantic waters.

The Editor of the *Hindi Punch* of Bombay has sent me his ninth annual volume of cartoons published in his weekly issues. They reflect the warring strifes of Moderates and Extremists, Constitutionalists and Nationalists, which characterised the year 1908 in India. But they also indicate the great expectations with which India looks forward to the reforms promised by Lord Morley and the Government of India. I have also received Mr. John Grand-Carteret's "Le César Allemand," published in Paris. It is a collection of the best of the cartoons depicting the German Emperor that have appeared lately, including many that have already been given in this magazine. One other—"The Marine Painters"—is given on the opposite page.

Minneapolis Journal.]

The New Chauffeur.

By permission from "New York" Life."]

Faust at the National Theatre, Washington.

Faust—PROTECTION. *Mephistopheles*—MR. CANNON.
Marguerite—MR. TAFT. *Martha*—CONSUMER.

Interviews on Topics of the Month.

108.—THE TERRITORIALS: LORD ESHER.

LORD ESHER is by universal consent one of the half-dozen men who "run the Empire." Yet to the majority he is a man of mystery. "Who the devil is Lord Esher?" you hear every now and then asked in tones of irritation.

The Kaiser gibed at him; the papers occasionally hint mysteriously as if he were a second Lord North. But hitherto, although he has been in everything except the Cabinet—and he might have been in the Cabinet if he had liked office—it was not till last month that he came prominently into the open before the man in the street. But this time he has stood in the limelight with a vengeance. For the whole of last month London has reverberated with the echoes of Lord Esher's appeal. Using the *Daily Mail* as his big drum, the Chairman of the London County Association has turned recruiting sergeant to the Territorials to such good purpose that the London contingent has now been brought up to its proper strength. It was 11,000 short before he took the thing in hand, and in a fortnight the *Daily Mail* was able proudly to announce that London had done its duty, and that the ranks of the Territorials were filled so far as the capital was concerned. This was all Lord Esher's doing.

I asked Lord Esher whether he did not think the style of his recruiting through the *Daily Mail* and the music-hall was playing it a little low down?

Lord Esher replied: "I want my men, and go where I can get them."

"Nothing succeeds like success," I answered; "but remember what Cromwell said about the men the Parliament first recruited before he raised his Ironsides. You want men who put some conscience into their work—not such decadents of the music-hall as Geoffrey in 'The Englishman's Home.'"

"But I am a missionary *in partibus infidelium*," replied Lord Esher. "Our preaching is to the unconverted. We want to touch the consciences of those who have hitherto been indifferent. I go through the *Daily Mail* to the music-halls. But I should dearly like to have a turn at the churches and chapels. Do you think they would let me appeal from their pulpit to the sober, serious, religious youth to come out and do their duty to their country?"

"I hae my doots," said I. "My youngest son joined the Westminsters the other day, and some of his old Cambridge chums have also become Territorials. But the weak point seems to be the assumption that the Territorials only recruit from clerks, working men, and

Westminster Gazette.]

British Sportsmen.

YOUTHS: "What are we doin'? We're goin' to a football match, guv'nor. Wy, we know every pint in the game, and know the pet nimes of all the players. We're British sportsmen."

JOHN BULL: "You'd be more British and much better sportsmen if you joined the Territorials!"

Photograph by] [*Illustrations Bureau.*

Saturday Afternoon with the London Scottish.

This was a match-out for the purpose of attracting recruits for the Territorials.

weekly wage earners. If the voluntary system is to be an effective substitute for conscription, there ought to be the same mixture of classes in the ranks as there is in countries where universal service prevails, where king's sons, duke's sons, etc., rub shoulders with the rank and file of the agricultural and industrial classes. It ought to be regarded surely as bad form not to have served in the Territorials."

"By all means," said Lord Esher. "But the upper and the lower classes pay their toll of voluntary service in the Regulars and in the Navy. It is the middle classes who have been the shirkers. Now is their chance."

Lord Esher has in his life played many parts. When I first knew him it was as General Gordon's friend, the private secretary of the Duke of Devonshire, and Liberal Member for Falmouth. But I may live to see him discoursing in the pulpit of the City Temple, or saying a word in season in Westminster Chapel. One thing is certain: If he should be summoned by the spiritual descendants of the Puritans to recruit for his new model in their meeting-places, Lord Esher will not fail. For one of the most extraordinary things about this extraordinary man is that he always pulls off everything to which he puts a hand. He is the man who gets things done.

Photograph by [*Illustrations Bureau.*

Saturday Afternoon at a Football Match.

This photograph was taken at Portsmouth. It represents only a part of those who were present, and it is only one of many similar and even larger attendances at matches on the same afternoon.

109.—THE MYSTERY OF THE SEXAPHONE: MR. WILLIAMS.

MR. WILLIAMS is a working engineer who also keeps hens at Catford. One day when in his workshop he noticed that some small steel articles suspended from the wall by wire were quivering without any apparent cause. As the quivering continued, he hunted about to discover what was the source of the disturbance. Immediately below the pendent steel someone had placed a basket of eggs. He removed it to see if there was any magnet beneath. No sooner had he done so than the quivering ceased. He replaced the basket and the quivering recommenced. Clearly there was some connection between the quiver that was felt by the steel and the eggs. Mr. Williams began experimenting with this hitherto unsuspected sympathetic relation between steel and egg. He found that a sterile egg left the steel unmoved. Continuing his experiments, he found that one egg would cause the steel to move backwards and forwards like the pendulum of a clock, while another egg would cause it to rotate with a circular motion. He hatched out the first egg, and the chicken that came out was a pullet. He hatched out the second, and out came a cockerel. In thus wise it was that Mr. Williams stumbled upon what may be the key to many mysteries, viz., the latent power of sex in eggs to move a pendent piece of steel from side to side if the egg be female, in a circle if it be male.

I met Mr. Williams at the *Daily Mirror* exhibition of the sexaphone at the Hotel Cecil.

"Are you sure you are right?" I asked.

"I have verified it a thousand times. Last year I hatched out hundreds of eggs in my three incubators, and they came out true to indication every time. Of course, I never set eggs shown to be sterile."

"Then all your certificated eggs hatch out, and always true to the sex shown by your little machine?"

"That is so. At first I was clumsy and made a few mistakes. But my wife can test 200 eggs an hour, and we hatch out 100 per cent. and have just the proportion of cockerels or pullets that we prefer."

"What is your machine?"

"Here it is," said Mr. Williams, producing a sexaphone; "one is simply a fine steel wire, from which is suspended a small steel weight. That is the more sensitive. The other is a trifle more elaborate, but the principle is the same."

"And does sex always affect it in the same way?"

"Invariably. Man or woman, bird, beast, or fish—the instrument never fails. I have tried it on armadillos and eels. But try it yourself."

So I tried it on General Sir Alfred Turner's head. The little ball quivered, moved slowly, and soon was gyrating round and round as if it would never stop. I tried it on a lady's head. The circular movement

Photograph by [Illustrations Bureau.

The Pendulum of the Sexaphone is gyrating over the head of Sir Alfred Turner.

slowly died away, and then the steel ball began to swing back and forth like the pendulum of a clock.

"Perhaps it is suggestion," I objected. "It moves as we expect it to do."

"Try it on an animal whose sex is unknown. Here is a hedgehog. Here are guinea-pigs, pigeons, rabbits, white mice; no one can say which is male and which is female without close examination—test them."

So we did, and behold in every case the sexaphone told truly the sex of the subject! Mr. Williams suggested we should try it on a dog which he was proceeding to take out of the basket.

I objected. "Let the dog stay where it is; keep the lid down. No one knows whether it is a he or a she. Hold the sexaphone over the basket and see if it will work."

To this Mr. Williams objected. He could not guarantee that it would tell the sex unless it was held close to the animal; the lid of the basket might intercept the current. I insisted. "Try it and see"

Mr. Williams gave way. I held the sexaphone over the basket, and lo! in a few seconds it began to gyrate in the circular fashion. "I pronounce this dog a male," I said. "Take it out and see."

And male it was!

The experiment is to be repeated at my office for the purpose of putting the power of the sexaphone to a test of its ability to detect the sex of eggs before a small but influential committee of the best known experts on poultry-rearing in this country. I hope to report the results in a future number of the REVIEW.

110.—A FILLIP TO SOCIALISM? THE PUBLIC TRUSTEE.

IF the Report of the Poor Law Commission is a knockdown blow to Socialism of the Collectivist type, the first Report of the Public Trustee, issued last month, will give a great fillip to Socialism of the saner variety. For the Public Trustee has vindicated in his short term of office the conviction that there are many things which the State can do better for the citizen than the citizen can do for himself. The Post Office is one example of this. The Public Trustee seems likely to be another.

I had the privilege of a long interview with the Public Trustee and his assistant last month, before the publication of his Report. They are both pleasant gentlemen, who are very well pleased with the work that has been given to the Department to do, and also, quite justifiably, with the way in which it has been done. Since the Public Trustee was brought into existence they have administered 325 estates, of an approximate value of £2,000,000, on an expenditure of £7,731, of which £4,500 was met by fees.

I asked the Public Trustee whether he was prepared to carry on all the businesses of all the testators who appointed him trustee of their estate.

"No," said he. "We wind them up with such expedition as we can. If we were to undertake to carry them on we should inevitably break down. No public official has brains enough, knowledge enough, or experience enough to venture upon any such complex enterprise. It is by respecting our limitations we realise our strength."

"But the temptation to a Napoleonic Public Trustee of Collectivist principles would be tremendous. You could so work your trusteeship as to enable you to control all means of production and distribution?"

"Yes, perhaps; but as I am neither Napoleonic nor Collectivist, the temptation does not appeal to me. I stick to my humbler business of transacting cheaply and efficiently for the testator what at present is done inefficiently and at considerable cost of time and money by private trustees."

"Cheap, you say? But does that not spell ruin to the vast army of lawyers who——"

"Ought not to be trustees, only the legal advisers of trustees. They can carry on their proper mission by advising the Public Trustee."

"Not many pickings will they get out of you," I said. "But even with all your respect for the necessary limitations, I see you have already undertaken enough obligations to turn your hair grey. You will soon have as many wards as there are wards in Chancery. You will have to look after their education and their training; you will have to decide as to what trade, calling, or profession the boy must pursue; and as for the girls, I already see you at the head of a matrimonial bureau."

"Perhaps. But if we do the work successfully?"

"Oh, yes; that is the regular *facilis descensus Averno*. You begin well, people trust you, more and more work is heaped upon you, and, behold! you develop, before you know where you are, into the Omnipotent Tchinovnik, with his finger and thumb upon everyone's throat. If you do these things described in your Report in the green tree, what will you not do in the dry? Methinks I see in you the Germ of the Coming Despotism you are creating, the grey matter of the brain for the Collectivist state of the future."

"But," objected the Public Trustee, "is there not another way of looking at it? By enabling the testator to feel quite secure that his wishes will be carried out, you give greater security to the owners of property."

"There you are again," I exclaimed. "Avoiding the Scylla of Socialism you are falling headlong into the Charybdis of the Dead Hand. Testators' wishes are now often more honoured in the breach than the observance. But you will make the grasp of the Dead Hand as hard and as lasting as cast iron."

"Dangers no doubt there are in any course you take," said the Public Trustee, "but it is more dangerous still to do nothing and merely drift. One of the advantages of a Public Trusteeship is that it is constantly under the scrutiny of the public and the public Press. Another is that it is the depository of a far wider range of information and experience than can be commanded by any private trustee. Nothing would be more fatal for the Public Trustee than to be too eager, too ambitious."

"Forswear ambition. By that sin fell the angels. But, briefly, after this preliminary skirmish, what are the salient outstanding facts which the public ought to know about the working of the office for the first year of its existence?"

"You will find it all set out in our Report which we have just published. The chief part of our business at present is with ordinary trusts, in which we act either as sole or as joint trustee."

"What kind of trusts?"

"All kinds of trusts—transferred trusts, new trusts, trusts under wills, trusts under marriage settlements. But another branch of our business is that of executorship. We act not only as trustees, but as executors. Already we have been notified that we have been appointed as executor in estates of a capital value of £19,000,000. Last year we acted as sole executor in fourteen cases, and as co-executor in eight. We received £803 in fees, and we shall receive a similar amount when we have distributed the £455,000 which is the capital value of the estates in question."

"Have you anything to do with intestate estates?"

"Oh, yes, we administer the estates of intestates, and as we have no trouble about having to find sureties for the administration bond this branch of our business is sure to increase."

"Any other functions?"

"Other functions? Why, I have only touched upon the most obvious duties of my office. We administer small estates simply and inexpensively. We administer moneys paid into court for the benefit of minors and others, and we also administer property of convicts under the Forfeiture Act. Then there is what I may call the inquisition."

"What is that?"

"Are you aware that any private trustee or beneficiary who has any anxiety about the property in which he is interested can appeal to us, and we at once institute an investigation and secure an audit? We do this for anyone."

"Anything else?"

"Everything else. We look after children, see to their education, their apprenticeship and general welfare. We are almost *in loco parentis* for many orphans. The fund for the policeman's widow at Tottenham has been handed to us to invest and administer."

"Do you deal in stocks and shares?"

"Not exactly; but we have to invest money, and we have a wide range of investments. We have at present £1,735,000 invested, and we secure an average return of £3 16s. 5d. per cent. If we had a free hand we could secure 4 per cent."

"And you do all this for nothing?"

"No, sir. But we do it for fees which, as you see by the accounts, did not last year quite meet our expenditure. They are as low as any charged anywhere in the world, but they are to be still further reduced——"

"Will you ever make it self-supporting?

"Not only self-supporting, but we may even make a profit. That, however, is not our desire. We have been created for the service of the public, and we exist solely for that end. To facilitate the just, legal, and economical administration of trusts is our sole object, not to earn income for the Treasury."

III.—THE OPEN OCEAN AS A CURE FOR CONSUMPTION.

"CAN consumption be cured?" I asked a friend of mine the other day who has made a study of the "great white plague."

"Yes," said he, "if you take it early enough. Live in the open air all day, and, if possible, all night. But the air must be pure, full of oxygen, and entirely free from bacteria."

"Where can such air be found?" I asked incredulously.

"At sea," he answered earnestly; "only at sea. Don't you think the time has come for Britons to afford the world a practical object-lesson of their capacity, not merely to rule the waves, but to use their ocean realm as a cure for consumption?"

"Can it be done?" I asked.

"It can be done, done at once, done cheaply, and done at a profit," he replied.

"Where are your proofs?"

"Experimental demonstration is impossible till we put it to the test. But my authorities are Dr. A. Edom of Brussels, whose book on the subject is almost classic; Dr. E. von Leyden, the chief medical professor at Berlin, and the *British Medical Journal*."

"What precisely is your case?"

"In a nutshell, this. That what are now universally admitted to be essentials to the cure of consumption—the constant breathing of highly oxygenated air free from all bacteria at an equable temperature—can better be secured in an ocean sanatorium than anywhere else in the world."

"What do you propose to do?"

"To form a small company, buy a suitable sailing ship, fit her out as a floating sanatorium for fifty patients, and let her cruise slowly about the Canary Islands or Madeira or the Cape de Verde Islands. If the wind freshened the ship could take refuge in a sheltered roadstead. The temperature varies little. The patients would live, waking and sleeping, in the open air. They would have all the comforts and none of the temptations of a land sanatorium, and in three months they would be quite well."

"What would it cost?"

"The financial scheme, which has been carefully worked out by experts, shows that a sanatorium on the high seas run with luxury, under the control of an adequate medical and nursing staff, would pay a good dividend if forty of its fifty berths were filled with patients paying 30s. a day. In other words, we could cure a consumptive in the first or second stage at a charge of £150, from starting port to port of return. I think it not improbable that we might hereafter make rebate of fees, but at first we propose to charge 30s. a day, inclusive of everything, and out of the fees of the well-to-do to set aside a liberal proportion to defray the cost of a certain number of free patients recommended by the shareholders."

"Who is at your back in this matter?"

"I have mentioned the *imprimatur* of the *British Medical Journal*. Lord Pirrie, Sir Edgar Speyer, and Sir Alfred Jones have been taking a warm interest in the matter from the moment it was brought to their notice. I have dozens of enthusiastic letters from eminent medical men, amongst them many specialists, expressing their intense desire to see a demonstration of this overwhelmingly convincing idea carried out without any further delay."

"Would this method of treatment be also applicable to a greater number of sufferers on benevolent lines?"

"Decidedly so in an eminent degree, and it is my heart's desire that that should be done as soon as this company has proved a success. The financial burdens for ocean sanatoriums on benevolent lines will be less than for efficient land sanatoriums on benevolent lines."

So said my friend, and I was so taken with his enthusiasm that I set apart one of the rooms in Mowbray House; so my friend is now domiciled in 14, Norfolk Street, Strand, W.C., under the style of "Ocean Sanatoriums for Tuberculosis," where anyone can address him who wishes to associate himself financially with the scheme or who would desire to book berths in advance.

HOW TO CURE STAMMERING.

I USED to believe no one could cure stammering, which is one of the most annoying impediments to human intercourse. But I have come upon an expert who can do this apparently impossible thing. His name is Mr. Horspool; his address is Albion House, New Oxford St., London. He came to me some time ago and said that he could do it, had done it, and could do it again, as often as I liked.

He asked me to put him under observation. I complied with his request. A small boy of ten, bearing one of the most familiar names in business circles of London, and whose family is closely connected with the peerage, was submitted to Mr. Horspool. He stammered painfully. His parents were in despair. None of the doctors who were consulted—for money was not lacking—could do anything. Mr. Horspool took him in hand. My representative watched the treatment week by week. In one month the boy talks with perfect ease and freedom. The cure apparently is complete, although he is still to be kept under observation. Mr. Horspool says that if the subject had been an adult, the cure would have been effected sooner. That may be. I am only prepared to certify the boy was cured. But of that there is no doubt.

John Bull at the Penitent Form.

THE ROYAL COMMISSION'S REPORT ON THE POOR LAW.

It is difficult, almost impossible, to cope in a magazine like this with the Reports of the Royal Commissioners on the Poor Law, which were published last month. It is not often John Bull goes to the Penitent Form, but when he does, his confessions are voluminous indeed. "Lord have mercy upon me, miserable sinner!" is written large over almost every page of both these Reports. So doleful are his lamentations that the sympathetic reader almost begins to despair. For everything seems to be wrong; nothing seems to be right, and we are invited to run amok at almost everything we have hitherto been taught to reverence. If there be one principle more than another which has been held to be the greatest safeguard of democracy, it is the elective principle applied through local self-governing bodies jealous of their freedom from centralising authority. That great safeguard is now to be flung to the winds. The Majority Report damns the elective principle as fatal to efficiency, and both Majority and Minority Reports insist upon increasing the authority of the Central Authority. What are we to think of it? It is too soon to say. To-day I confine myself to giving a hasty sketch of the salient features of this historical "Mea Culpa."

I.—EXIT POOR RELIEF: ENTER PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.

THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION

THE appointment of a Royal Commission into the Poor Law was one of the first articles in the programme of social reforms submitted by our Helpers to all Parliamentary candidates in 1892. It was not till 1905 that the Government of Mr. Balfour, just before leaving office in December, 1905, appointed the Royal Commission which has just presented its Report. There are two Reports. The first, of 640 pages, is signed by fourteen out of eighteen Commissioners. The second, of 500 pages, is signed by four—the Rev. Russell Wakefield, Mr. Lansbury, Mr. F. Chandler, and Mrs. Sidney Webb.

Lord George Hamilton was Chairman of the Commission, which has held 200 meetings, examined 1,300 witnesses, made 800 personal visits to workhouses, etc. What with their evidence, the information obtained abroad, and the reports of Special Investigators, the printed progeny of this Commission will be forty volumes of 14,000 folio pages.

(1) WHAT IS TO REPLACE BOARDS OF GUARDIANS?

1. Both Reports agree in recommending the abolition of Boards of Guardians. The Majority Report proposes that they should be replaced by a Public Assistance Authority, which is to be a Statutory Committee appointed by the county or borough council, the constitution of which is carefully defined as follows :—

(i.) One half of the members to be appointed by the council of the county or county borough, and the persons so appointed may be persons who are members of the council.

(ii.) The other half of the members to be appointed by the council from outside their number and to consist of persons experienced in the local administration of public assistance or other cognate work.

(iii.) The actual number of members of the public assistance authority in each case and from time to time to be determined by the Local Government Board, after consideration of a scheme submitted on the first occasion by the council of the county or county borough, and on subsequent occasions by the public assistance authority.

(iv.) Women to be eligible for appointment under either head (i.) or (ii.).

The Public Assistance Committee will be appointed by the Public Assistance Authority, and will include :—

A certain proportion of persons nominated by the urban and rural district councils, and, where a voluntary aid committee has been established, a certain proportion nominated by that committee. The persons so nominated shall be experienced in the local administration of public assistance or other cognate work, and shall include a proportion of women, in our judgment not ordinarily less than one-third. One-third of the members shall retire each year, but shall be eligible for re-appointment.

The Minority Report would simply hand over the work now done by the Guardians to the county councils, with a free hand as to how they constitute their committees. But the central feature of their recommendation is to create in each county or county borough a kind of Major-General under the title of Registrar of Public Assistance.

This despot is to be appointed by the county and county borough council, and to be charged with the threefold duty of :

(i.) Keeping a public register of all cases in receipt of public assistance ;

(ii.) Assessing and recovering, according to the law of the land and the evidence as to sufficiency of ability to pay, whatever charges Parliament may decide to make for particular kinds of relief or treatment ; and

(iii.) Sanctioning the grants of home aliment proposed by the committees concerned with the treatment of the case.

(2) INCREASE OF CENTRAL AUTHORITY.

2. Both Reports agree in recommending an increase of the power of the Central Authority.

The Majority Report would secure this by increasing the subvention from £2,250,000 to £5,000,000 a year, and giving the Local Government Board a right to withhold the grant if the local authorities fail to do their duty.

The Minority Report would place all the local authorities under the supervision of a single department of the National Government, called a Ministry of Labour, which would administer the grants in aid.

(3) ABOLISH THE MIXED WORKHOUSE.

3. Both Reports agree in condemning the general mixed workhouse. The Majority Report would divide the indoor poor into seven classes, viz., (i.) children; (ii.) the aged and infirm; (iii.) able-bodied men; (iv.) able-bodied women; (v.) vagrants; (vi.) feeble-minded, and (vii.) epileptics. These are to be separately dealt with. The workhouses will be pooled, as it were, and the paupers distributed according to their class. Whether they will like this better when they find it takes them out of their own county is doubtful.

(4) VOLUNTARY AID COUNCILS.

4. One most important recommendation is that Voluntary Aid Councils, representing all existing charities, friendly societies, religious bodies, etc., shall be constituted for the purpose of appointing committees, to be established in the same building as the Public Assistance Committees, with whom they will work in harmony. This does not go as far as the Elberfeld system, but it is capable of development.

(5) PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.

5. The Majority Report summarises as follows the main principles upon which the new Public Assistance Authorities are to act:—

(i.) The treatment of the poor who apply for public assistance should be adapted to the needs of the individual, and, if institutional, should be governed by classification.

(ii.) The public administration established for the assistance of the poor should work in co-operation with the local and private charities of the district.

(iii.) The system of public assistance thus established should include processes of help which would be preventive, curative, and restorative.

(iv.) Every effort should be made to foster the instincts of independence and self-maintenance amongst those assisted.

(6) OTHER REFORMS.

6. As to outdoor relief, it must be adequate, granted after proper inquiry, after consultation with the Voluntary Aid Committee, and withheld from those who are not living respectable lives in decent houses outside slum areas.

7. Children no longer must be kept in workhouses, but as far as possible boarded out. Adoption should be fostered, and all Poor Law children should be medically inspected.

8. Aged put by themselves, classified according to physical condition and moral character, and when possible lodged in small homes.

9. More medical officers, medical treatment more readily available (subject to recovery of cost), no outdoor medical relief, except to those with good habits in healthy homes. No voter to be disfranchised for accepting medical relief.

10. Persons who persistently indulge in pernicious habits, etc., to be subjected to continuous treatment for such period as the magistrate shall decide within or without public institutions.

II.—A BLACK EYE FOR SOCIALISM AND DEMOCRACY.

THE Report of the Royal Commission upon the Poor Law is the worst knock which Socialism and Democracy have received in our time. It will long be quoted as a conclusive argument against the policy so much in favour in some quarters of converting the State into a universal provider for all its citizens.

The English Poor Law system is the one distinctively Socialistic institution in this country. To the destitute poor the State stands *in loco parentis*. It undertakes to feed, clothe, lodge, educate, and otherwise provide for all their wants. It is their earthly providence. It is to the 750,000 recipients of Poor Law relief all, and more than all, that the Socialised State would be to all the inhabitants of this country. We have therefore an object-lesson in miniature of the distinctive characteristics of a collectivist system applied only to a small percentage of the population.

THE MIXED WORKHOUSE.

The first thing that leaps to the eye is the belief of the Commissioners as to the absolute impossibility of securing any semblance of improvement excepting by a centralised despotism. Local self-government means that the Local Boards do as they please, taking no notice of the most urgent representations of the central government. Take, for instance, the mixed workhouse. The Royal Commission of 1834 condemned it in unsparing terms. Ever since then the Local Government Board has endeavoured to break up that most objectionable institution. But the evils of the general mixed workhouse remain to-day very much what they were at the beginning of the century:—

In a large majority of the unions the local Board of Guardians insists on retaining all sections of the sick—the tuberculous, the cancerous, the venereal, the maternity cases, the children, the senile, and sometimes even the infectious—in the General Mixed Workhouse.

OUTDOOR RELIEF.

The same story is told about the administration of outdoor relief:—

The Royal Commission of 1834 insisted that uniformity in the administration of relief was an absolute essential. All the same, it never has been established, and the amazing statement is made that no Order has ever been issued from the central authority regulating or controlling the annual disbursement of the £4,000,000 annually paid in outdoor relief. The result is what might be expected. Two-fifths of the unions have no by-laws on the subject at all. They profess to deal with each case requiring outdoor relief "on its merits." The remaining three-fifths have drawn up extensive by-laws, showing the most extraordinary divergence, not only in points of detail, but as regards ideals and principles of administration.

FAVOURITISM.

The second thing that is equally obvious is that no elected authority can be trusted to mete out impartial justice in the distribution of public money. Here is what the Report states as to the way in which the

Boards of Guardians distribute outdoor relief when they deal with each case on its merits :—

"Each case on its merits" is the formula used to conceal much caprice, prejudice, and favouritism. The result is injustice. There is neither the superficial equality of treatment which adherence to a rigid scale gives nor the deeper equality of treatment according to ascertained need. There is little or no attempt at discovering the whole position of a case and meeting it in a thoughtful fashion. Guardians are not relieving destitution, but supplementing small and precarious incomes.

The money of the ratepayers "is being applied to subsidise dirt, disease, and immorality."

A STEPMOTHER STATE.

The third fact brought into bold relief by the Report is the utter inefficiency of the State when it attempts to discharge the duty of parenthood. Under the Poor Law the State feeds, clothes and educates 100,000 children in the workhouses, and assists in feeding 130,000 whose parents are receiving outdoor relief. 15,000 babies—10,000 illegitimate—are born in the workhouse every year. This is how the State manages its lying-in hospitals :—

Expectant mothers are herded with prostitutes, and often left to await their confinement in the midst of imbeciles and epileptics. Expectant mothers are not even allowed to prepare for the coming event by making any clothes for the infant ; still less are they instructed how to do so. "It is," we are informed, "against the workhouse rules" for expectant mothers to make the baby clothes, which "are made in the sewing-room by the older women." "No instruction or help of any kind," observes a lady guardian, "is given to young mothers. There is no one to give it."

The result is that in some workhouses 40 per cent. of the babies die in the first twelve months. The death-rate of workhouse infants is more than double that of those outside.

IMBECILES AS NURSES.

Even after killing off so many unwanted children the State has still 14,000 children left on its hands who are under five years of age. How does it manage its nursery ? The Report tells us :—

We regret to report that these workhouse nurseries are, in a large number of cases—alike in structural arrangements, equipment, organisation, and staffing—wholly unsuited to the healthy rearing of infants. It is in vain that the Local Government Board has for more than a decade laid it down that, etc., etc. The Boards of Guardians have not obeyed. We have visited many workhouse nurseries in the different parts of the kingdom, and we have found hardly any that can possibly be regarded as satisfactory places in which children should be reared.

Babies are handed over to "classed imbeciles." One such feeble-minded nurse once washed her charge in boiling water, so that it died. "The whole nursery," says a lady guardian, "has often been found under the charge of a person actually certified as of unsound mind, the bottles sour, the babies wet, cold, and dirty." Yet in face of these facts and others of a similar nature it is difficult to believe that the millennium will dawn when the Socialised State undertakes the duty of bringing up all children in State nurseries.

THE CULTURE OF SERVILITY.

A fourth damning indictment brought against the system by the Report is the effect which entrusting the maintenance of men, women, and children to State officials has upon the character of those officials. However good they may be at the start, their position soon brings about a subtle deterioration.

Here is a pleasant picture of what the officials become in a State which is the Universal Provider :—

But to the common run of men and women who gain appointments as master and matron there comes to be, amid all the differences of sex or age or character or health or strength or defectiveness, but one category of inmate—the pauper ; the person who ought not to be there ; the semi-delinquent, who ought to be grateful for being at the public expense just kept alive.

The inevitable result is the development among the officials of a complete indifference to suffering which they cannot alleviate, to ignorance which they cannot enlighten, to virtue which they cannot encourage, to indolence which they cannot correct, to vice which they cannot punish. The one attribute in an inmate which they appreciate is instant obedience passing into servility.

Of the relieving officers it is said they are quite unfitted as a class to perform the manifold functions expected of them. From first to last, there is in the Poor Law medical service no thought of anything but "relief." It is not regarded as any part of the duty of the district medical officer to take any steps to prevent disease, either in the way of recurrence in the same patient, or in its spread to other persons. From first to last, in short, the outdoor medical service of the Poor Law has no conception of the public health point of view.

And so on and so on till the end of the chapter !

WHAT DOES IT MEAN ?

What is the meaning of all this ? Does it mean that Society has not made sufficient progress on the evolutionary road for its members to have brain, conscience or heart enough to handle collectively any great masses of human beings ? The Poor Law system is only concerned with a small percentage of the population. It has all the educated classes, the leisured classes, the religious people, and the trades unions to draw upon as Guardians of the Poor. It has a Fortunatus' purse to draw upon in the shape of the pocket of the ratepayer.

THE WORKHOUSE A.D. 1909.

But here is a vivid picture painted by the Commissioners of the kind of home which these elect of the people have succeeded in creating in this year of grace 1909 :—

There are no separate bedrooms, there are not even separate cubicles. The young servant out of place, the prostitute recovering from disease, the feeble-minded woman of any age, the girl with her first baby, the unmarried mother coming in to be confined of her third or fourth bastard, the senile, the paralytic, the epileptic, the respectable deserted wife, the widow to whom outdoor relief has been refused, are all herded indiscriminately

together. We have found respectable old women annoyed, by day and by night, by the presence of noisy and dirty imbeciles.

Idiots who are physically offensive or mischievous, or so noisy as to create a disturbance by day and by night with their howls, are often found in workhouses mixing with others, both in the sick wards and in the body of the home. We have ourselves seen, in one large workhouse, pregnant women who have come in to be confined, compelled to associate day and night, and to work side by side with half-witted imbeciles and women so physically deformed as to be positively repulsive to look upon. A large proportion of these workhouses have, for instance, no separate sick ward for children, and, in spite of the ravages of measles, etc., not even a quarantine ward for the constant stream of new-comers. Accordingly, in the sick wards of the smaller workhouses, with no constraint on mutual intercourse, we have more than once seen young children in bed with minor ailments, next to women of bad character under treatment for contagious disease, whilst other women, in the same ward, were in advanced stages of cancer and senile decay.

ITS SIGNIFICANCE.

What an Inferno! Not very encouraging for those Utopians who are constantly assuring us that we need only hand over to the State the entire control of everything in order to bring about the coming of the Kingdom of Heaven on earth. The answer to these fond imaginings is the English workhouse. If that is the best the State can do, there is little temptation to sacrifice liberty in the hope that therewith we should purchase comfort. When we woke up in slavery we might find out that comfort was even further beyond our reach than it was before.

THE FAILURE OF MASS TREATMENT.

It is no use abusing the Guardians. If half of them had been women things would not have been in the mess in which they now are, but being mere men, with only here and there a solitary woman to break the male monotony of the Board, they have done the best they could. Even although they are elected by only twenty-eight per cent. of the electorate they are probably quite as good a type of men as could be secured in a socialised State to manage everything and everybody. They have failed not because they are bad men, or idle men, or corrupt men, for as a whole they are none of these. Their failure is due to the fact that the very essence of the system they have to administer is collective and not individual, and it is asserted as almost a self-evident proposition in the Report that the keynote of all reform is to substitute individual treatment for mass treatment. But that is the very antithesis of the doctrine of the collectivist. If it is necessary to avoid collective treatment when you have only 250,000 persons to deal with, how much more necessary will that be if you undertake to feed and clothe and lodge forty millions?

MONEY NO REMEDY.

Another very remarkable feature of the Report is the evidence which it affords of the inability of the State to cope with these difficulties by the mere expenditure of money. Indeed, it almost seems as if the more money you spend in relieving distress, the more distress there is to be relieved. Neither do increased wages and cheap food seem to reduce pauperism. Wages are 10 per cent. higher in the nineties than they were in the eighties, and 30 per cent. higher than in the sixties. We are spending nearly 60 millions a year on poor relief, education and public health, and yet the number of able-bodied healthy paupers has gone up in the ten years 1896-1906 by 21 per cent. indoor and 49 per cent. outdoor. We spent £7 12s. 1d. on every pauper in 1874; we spend £15 12s. 6d. to-day. Every man, woman, and child paid 7s. 0¼d. per head for poor relief in 1871-2. And the worst of it is that no one seems any better for all this outlay.

THE SOCIALIST'S PARADISE.

The Report tells us that in countless instances there is a gradual deterioration of intellect owing to the lack of almost all incentive to use the brain. "After an experience of some twelve years there is no doubt in my mind that life in the workhouse deteriorates mentally, morally, and physically the habitual inmate." The indoor pauper has attained the ideal of the Socialist's paradise. The necessaries of life are provided without any thought or effort on his part, and as the result, in the majority of cases, the sole ideas that fill the mind are to get as much to eat and as much sleep and as large an immunity from even the lightest task as possible. In other words, the man deprived of the whip and spur of the struggle for existence degenerates into a gluttonous sloth. The whole thing is summed up in the saying of a workhouse inmate, "So long as I can get sixteen ounces of pie for my dinner, and my two children kept for life, and they don't ask me to do more than polish the stair banisters, I am not going to work."

THE LIMITS OF SANE SOCIALISM.

I have called the Report a Black Eye for Socialism and Democracy. But we are all Socialists nowadays, in a sense, and also Democrats. But sensible Socialists who are willing and eager to socialise everything that can safely be socialised—say all natural and artificial monopolies of service that experience shows can be managed collectively—ought to be the first to welcome the "Thus far and no farther" which this Report proclaims in trumpet-tones to those who would socialise the family and replace the home of a married pair by a State phalanstery. When next we are assured that the State can bring up babies better than their own mothers, let us point these confident prophets to the sixty-four workhouses where the only nurses for the children of the State were imbeciles and feeble-minded women. Until we can reform the Workhouse we had better keep the State from attempting to replace the Home.

III.—THE WORKLESS WORKER.

WHY HE IS UNEMPLOYED AND HOW TO HELP HIM.

BOTH the Majority and the Minority Report of the Poor Law Commission devote much attention to the question of unemployment. They agree in recommending—(1) A national scheme of labour exchanges; (2) labour colonies for the workless, with (3) places of detention, with suitable labour, for the "won't works."

Relief works, as at present organised, are condemned as demoralising by both parties on the Commission.

HOW TO PREVENT UNEMPLOYMENT.

The main causes of unemployment are held to be (1) casual labour and (2) boy labour. Casual labour is described as dangerous to the social life of the community and disastrous to the casual worker and his family. The majority insist that all available means should be taken to regularise employment, and say that Board of Trade officers might be sent to the ports to confer as to means of reducing the intermittent employment to small dimensions.

More serious is the disposition of boys to plunge into remunerative labour, which leaves them of no value in the labour market when boyhood is passed. Between 70 and 80 per cent. of boys leaving the elementary schools go into unskilled occupations. To avoid, as far as possible, this terrible wastage, the majority regard with favour the suggestions that boys should be kept at school until the age of fifteen instead of fourteen; that exemption below this age should be granted only for boys leaving to learn a skilled trade; and that there should be school supervision till sixteen and replacing in school of boys not properly employed. Further, there is urgent need of improved facilities for technical education after the present age for leaving school. With a view to the improvement of physique, a continuous system of physical drill should be instituted which might be commenced during school life, and be continued afterwards; and, in order to discourage boys from entering uneducative occupations which offer no prospect of permanent employment, there should be established, in connection with the Labour Exchange, a special organisation for giving boys, parents, teachers, and school managers information and guidance as to suitable occupations for children leaving school.

HOW TO INSURE AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT.

The Report suggests the desirability of some scheme on the principle of making an addition or subsidy from public funds to every payment of unemployed benefit made by a trade organisation to one of its members:—

> If the subsidy were to be offered to any provident organisation which would make unemployment insurance a leading feature of its business, we should look for the advent of a new type of friendly society, composed of men of similar or allied trades, who would have the necessary trade solidarity and knowledge of each other's circumstances, and whose interests would be sufficiently similar to prevent the "bad risks" crowding out the good. It would, in fact, be a trade union organised for provident benefits alone. If such societies came into existence under the encouragement of a subsidy we might hope for insurance against unemployment becoming general over the field of labour. Such a result, we venture to say, would far more than counterbalance the expense of the subsidy.

An analogous system is known abroad as the Ghent system, and the Report discusses at some length and with considerable favour the possibility and advantages of introducing the principles of this system into England. They recommend the creation of an organisation for insurance against unemployment, to develop and secure (with contributions from public funds) the greatest possible benefits to the workmen from co-operative insurance against unemployment.

HOW TO DISTRIBUTE EMPLOYMENT.

The Report recommends that Government departments and local and public authorities should be enjoined to regularise their work as far as possible, and to endeavour, where practicable, to undertake their irregular work when the general demand for labour is slack.

They rely greatly upon labour exchanges, worked as in Germany, as a national institution. The following recommendations are made:—

> A national system of labour exchanges should be established and worked by the Board of Trade, for the general purposes of assisting the mobility of labour, and of collecting accurate information as to unemployment. The labour exchanges should be in charge of officers of the Board of Trade, assisted by committees of employers, workmen, and representatives of local authorities. There should be no compulsion to use the labour exchanges, but the object of the Government and the local authorities should be to encourage and popularise them in every way—*e.g.*, by propaganda and by making use of the exchanges in engaging workmen. The labour exchanges should be granted free postal and telephone facilities by the State. Arrangements should be made to enable the labour exchanges to grant passes entitling workmen travelling to a situation to specially cheap railway fares; in suitable cases the cost of the passes might be defrayed by the labour exchange and recovered afterwards from the workmen.

It is hoped that labour exchanges would also—(1) Make it easier for men permanently displaced by industrial changes to pass to a new occupation; (2) facilitate the use of subsidiary employments by seasonal workers; (3) substitute for artificial tests and inquiries the beneficial and natural test of a situation through the exchange.

HOW TO DEAL WITH THE UNEMPLOYED.

The Majority Report proposes that the local authorities shall prepare beforehand, and submit for approval to the Local Government Board, schemes of special works which may be carried out in a time of exceptional and protracted distress. When the Local Government Board, after consulting the Board of Trade, have officially declared such a time to have supervened, then the local authorities shall have

special facilities given them for loans for carrying on these works on commercial lines, and not as relief.

That is for exceptional periods of distress. For the able-bodied out-of-work who is willing to work, the Majority Report recommends a graded scheme of restorative treatment to the better classes of workmen. For applicants with decent homes and good industrial record there will be available, for a strictly limited period, outdoor relief, or, as it is called, home assistance, provided that the requisite assistance is not forthcoming from any other source, that the assistance is given on condition of daily work, that the applicant is registered at the labour exchange, and that his relief should cease as soon as suitable occupation has been offered through the labour exchange. It is further laid down that "an essential principle to be observed in connection with home assistance to the able-bodied is that it should be in some way less agreeable than aid given by the Voluntary Aid Committee or than receipt of unemployed benefit through insurance."

Next, there will be available partial home assistance, by which "we mean home assistance for the family, the applicant himself being maintained in an institution and given work."

Lastly, there will be institutional assistance, by which "we mean continuous maintenance in an industrial or agricultural institution or colony without detention, except in so far as the applicant binds himself by a written agreement to stay for a definite period."

The best summary of the nature of these institutions is given in recommendations 150-155, which we here reproduce :—

Industrial or agricultural institutions should be situated in the country or on the outskirts of towns, in many cases a disused workhouse might be adapted. They should include housing accommodation for those receiving institutional or partial home assistance. They should be built in an inexpensive manner and with sufficient land to employ a large number of persons. For industrial occupations, inexpensive workshops should be erected. The workshops and land need not necessarily be adjacent to the housing accommodation. The industrial and agricultural institutions will be in direct communication with the labour exchange, and one of the primary objects of their officials should be the restoration to industrial efficiency and independence of the inmates under their care.

HOW TO DEAL WITH THE UNEMPLOYABLE.

Loafers and incorrigible vagrants are to be consigned to penal settlements at home. The Majority Report says :—

We have recommended that persons should be committed to a "detention colony" under the Home Office, for any period between six months and three years, who have been guilty of wilful and persistent repetition within a given period of any of the following offences :—

(1) Wilful refusal or neglect of persons to maintain themselves or their families (although such persons are wholly or in part able to do so), the result of such refusal or neglect being that the persons or their families have become chargeable to the Public Assistance Authority.

(2) Wilful refusal on the part of a person receiving assistance to perform the work or to observe the regulations duly prescribed in regard to such assistance.

(3) Wilful refusal to comply with the conditions laid down by the Public Assistance Authority upon which assistance can be obtained, with the result that a person's family thereby becomes chargeable.

(4) Giving way to gambling, drink, or idleness, with the result that a person or his or her family thereby becomes chargeable.

The results of this provision will be, we hope, that the loafer, the "in-and-out," the person who neglects his family, or who makes them chargeable owing to habits of gambling, drink, or idleness, etc., etc., will be submitted to a course of severe discipline and training, which, even if it does not restore the man to a comparative state of industrial efficiency, will, at the least, for a certain period prevent him from further demoralisation, and will to some extent deter both himself and others from indulging in the vice or habit responsible for his downfall.

A MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND ITS DUTIES.

It is proposed by the Minority that the duty of so organising the National Labour Market so as to prevent or to minimise unemployment should be placed upon a Minister responsible to Parliament, who might be designated the Minister of Labour; that the Ministry of Labour should include six distinct and separately organised divisions, each with its own assistant secretary—namely, the National Labour Exchange, the Trade Insurance Division, the Maintenance and Training Division, the Industrial Regulation Division, the Emigration and Immigration Division, and the Statistical Division. The necessity of establishing these sections is fully discussed; and it is proposed, among other things :—

That in order to meet the periodically recurrent general depressions of trade the Government should take advantage of there being at these periods as much unemployment of capital as there is unemployment of labour; that it should definitely undertake, as far as practicable, the regularisation of the national demand for labour; and that it should, for this purpose, and to the extent of at least £4,000,000 a year, arrange a portion of the ordinary work required by each Department on a ten years' programme; £40,000,000 worth of work for the decade being then put in hand, not by equal annual instalments, but exclusively in the lean years of the trade cycle; being paid for out of loans for short terms raised as they are required, and being executed with the best available labour, at standard rates, engaged in the ordinary way.

That in this ten years' programme there should be included works of afforestation, coast protection and land reclamation; to be carried out by the Board of Agriculture exclusively in the lean years of the trade cycle; by the most suitable labour obtainable, taken on in the ordinary way, at the rates locally current for the work, and paid for out of loans raised as required.

The Minority further propose that no child shall be employed under fifteen years of age, that between fifteen and eighteen none shall be employed more than thirty hours a week, an additional thirty hours being spent at a trade school; that hours of railway, tramway, and omnibus company employees should be reduced to sixty a week as a minimum; that mothers in charge of children and receiving public assistance shall not seek industrial employment; that for the residuum of men there should be given free maintenance while under training in day training depôts or residential farm colonies, their families being also provided for. The Minority Report is published in two volumes by Messrs. Longman—without an index! The Majority Report is out of print.

Leading Articles in the Reviews.

AZEFF: ASSASSIN,

Revolutionist and Police Spy.

A writer signing himself "D. S." contributes to the *English Review* for March the best article yet published on the astounding career of Azeff, the Assassin, who has been doomed to death by the Terrorists for treachery. M. Stolypin still professes to doubt whether Azeff was really responsible for the murders with which he is debited. "D. S.," who says that he personally knows Azeff, has no such doubts. Here is a condensation of his sketch of Azeff's amazing career. "D. S." says:—

"The Child is Father to the Man."

Azeff was born a traitor, ready furnished with the most precious and essential qualifications of a traitor. The son of a tailor, he was in the habit of inciting his schoolfellows in Rostoff-na-Donu to acts of insubordination in order to denounce them to the teachers. When a youth of twenty he stole a few hundred pounds from his employer, forged the necessary diplomas for himself, and went to Germany, where he entered a polytechnic as a student of engineering and electricity. It was there that he learnt, *au fond*, the art of making bombs and obtained the grade of a scientific engineer.

His Revolutionary Début.

It was in Germany that Azeff first joined a Russian revolutionary circle in which he soon managed to attain a prominent reputation. Azeff was not an orator, still less a writer or theorist. In fact, only with the greatest difficulty could he explain the course of his ideas upon paper. He spoke little, but his rare words were measured and to the point, therefore always of weight. Supplied with good references by his comrades, he went to Moscow and there joined the Social Revolutionists.

Subsidised by the Police.

He was then already in close touch with Ratchkovsky, the omnipotent chief of the foreign service of the Russian political police. Supplied with plenty of money by Ratchkovsky and ensured by him from arrest, Azeff, with the late Gershuni, a revolutionist of the highest moral and intellectual standard, visited the chief revolutionary centres in Russia and abroad, and in 1902 they succeeded in uniting the various local groups of the Social Revolutionists into one strong and well-organised body, which since then has carried on a dramatic and relentless struggle against Russian despotism. During the last seven years of this struggle Azeff used intermittently the Social Revolutionary Party and the political police as tools for the promotion of one end—his own career. From 1901 till the very end of 1908 Azeff took an active, often a leading, part in every scheme of the party.

His Murders.

Azeff beat the record in the slaying of tyrants. He was one of the leading organisers of the murders of Sipiagin, Bogdanovitch, Plehve, the Grand Duke Sergius, and of many others killed during those seven years. And for the last five years Azeff was actually the head of that terrible "Fighting Organisation" (*Boevaya Organisatsia*) which for a whole decade held the Tsar and his camarilla in awe and practical captivity. His nearest revolutionary comrades cherished towards him a deep affection and boundless confidence. In Paris and in Italy, where he passed a great part of his time with his wife and children, he lived simply and modestly, and was known as an exemplary husband and father. Azeff, who brought death upon so many youths and young girls, was himself a great lover of children.

His Connection with Durnovo.

The Central Committee of the Social Revolutionary Party is in possession of a document proving that in 1902, Ratchkovsky, the head of the foreign service of Russian political police, wrote to the Department of Police asking for 500 roubles which his secret agent, "a friend of Gershuni," must "subscribe to the funds of the Social Revolutionary party." The famous Minister, Durnovo, in answer requested that the agent in question should present himself to him personally. The agent therefore visited Durnovo. It was Eugene Azeff. At the request of Durnovo he delivered to him the names of the members of the Central Committee of the party.

His Treachery.

Other documents prove that Azeff at about the same time betrayed a secret printing establishment of the party in Penza, and many arrests were made. He invented and realised a scheme of smuggling the literature of the party into Russia in refrigerators of foreign make. And when this ingenious plan began to work successfully he denounced it to the police and many of the party perished. In the beginning of 1904 a circle of revolutionists, led by a young girl, Sophia Klichoglu, elaborated a plan for the murder of the then Dictator of Russia, Plehve. This group worked independently of the "Fighting Organisation," of which Azeff was the head. Azeff gave away the organisers of the attempt, and they were all arrested and perished.

His Assassinations.

A few months later Azeff himself elaborated a scheme for the blowing up of Plehve by bombs. And though it is now certain that some at least of the heads of the secret police knew of the conspiracy, Plehve was actually killed, and, apart from the two bomb throwers, Sasonoff and Sikorsky, who were taken on the spot, the participants in the plot escaped, and are safe at this moment, though since then they have repeatedly visited Russia.

The murder of Plehve, which filled the whole of Russia with joy and hope and cast confusion into Court circles, increased tenfold Azeff's prestige and the party's confidence in him.

A few months later the Tsar's favourite uncle, the Grand Duke Sergius, was killed by a bomb in broad daylight. In this affair, too, Azeff, as the head of the "Fighting Organisation," played a leading *rôle*.

His Work as Police Spy.

Immediately after the murder of Plehve, Azeff busied himself in sending denunciations to the police. He betrayed Prince Hilkof, the friend of Tolstoi, and several other revolutionists with whom he was upon the most friendly terms. As a representative of the Social Revolutionists he took part in a conference of all the opposition parties held in Paris in 1904, and immediately sent to the then director of police, Lopukhine, the full report of the conference which had been entrusted to him for transmission to his party. He then returned to Russia, and there, guarded by agents of the secret police, travelled from town to town, participating in various revolutionary conferences. Then followed numerous attempts, mostly unsuccessful, at the murder of high officials. In St. Petersburg an attempt was planned against General Trepoff, the bodyguard of the Tsar. This was extremely clumsily organised, and was denounced by Azeff, who took no direct part in it, and ten persons, among them seven women, one being a niece of Trepoff himself, were arrested and tried. Several attempts were planned against General Dubassoff. They all failed, though in the last attempt, directed by Azeff personally, Dubassoff's lieutenant was killed. An unsuccessful attempt against Stolypin in May 1906 was also organised by Azeff.

No More Bombs: Try Aeroplanes.

He then left Russia and declared to his committee in Paris that bombs had ceased to be reliable weapons, and that new methods must be tried. He maintained that these new weapons could be nothing but dirigible aeroplanes, from which bombs, filled with a new explosive of terrific force could be hurled down upon the Tsar's palace and the Governmental buildings,

to wipe out the very nucleus of the hitherto invincible despotism.

DENOUNCED AND ACQUITTED.

Meanwhile, in August, 1905, one of the members of the St. Petersburg Committee of the party received an anonymous letter, in which a certain "Azyef" and a former exile with the initial "T" were denounced as betraying the party to the police.

An inquiry was made; and a secret tribunal of the party sat to try the case. Azeff furnished proofs that "T," who appeared to be Tatarov, had really upon several occasions betrayed revolutionists. And in the end the trial was that of Tatarov, and not Azeff, who was among the judges. In vain Tatarov asserted that he was only the subordinate agent; that the real great traitor was Azeff himself. The judges scorned these "ridiculous libels." Tatarov was condemned to death by the tribunal, Azeff himself being the first to sign the death-warrant and the arranger of the execution. One of the nearest friends of Azeff, who had taken part in all his great assassinations, a fearless revolutionist, was sent by Azeff to Warsaw, called at Tatarov's rooms and there stabbed him to death. The whereabouts of Tatarov was revealed to Azeff by his chief, Ratchkovsky, the head of the secret police, who was probably only too glad to sacrifice the smaller fry in order to preserve Azeff.

HOW HE KILLED FATHER GAPON.

A year later Azeff in a similar manner "removed" a man of far higher importance than himself—the famous "revolutionary pope," Father Gapon.

Gapon's decline then began. He was temporarily carried away by his pleasures of lay life, and gradually became estranged from the revolutionists, who lost every confidence in him.

He eventually returned to Russia, and entered into communication with Witte and Ratchkovsky, receiving from the first 30,000 roubles for the reorganisation of his former workmen's unions to be carried on again as before, under the secret patronage of the police, and being strongly urged by Ratchkovsky to betray the leaders of the Social Revolutionists.

I doubt whether he really betrayed any one.

A few weeks after that, on March 28, 1906, he was hanged in an empty house near St. Petersburg, which belonged to a former police official. He had evidently been overcome after a violent struggle. His body was found only four weeks later. This mysterious death has never before been truly explained, and I will give the story of it here. Gapon's death was due to Azeff, who, learning of Gapon's relations with Ratchkovsky, feared that he might become a dangerous rival and still more that he might get wind of his, Azeff's, own *rôle*. Azeff had been informed by Ratchkovsky that Gapon had agreed to betray him, Azeff, and another leader of the Social Revolutionists for a large sum of money. Acting on the strength of this, in the spring of 1906 he prepared a fictitious plan and proposed it to the party. Informing the party that he had heard that Gapon had promised to betray him and another to Ratchkovsky, he proposed to the party that Ratchkovsky should be murdered. His real object was to rid himself of Gapon. A meeting was planned between Gapon, Rottenberg, and Ratchkovsky. Azeff thereupon proposed at this meeting both Gapon and Ratchkovsky should be killed. But on the day of the meeting Ratchkovsky failed to keep the appointment, and Gapon alone fell into the trap. Upon Gapon's body was found a visiting-card of Ratchkovsky excusing himself for non-appearance. Needless to say, the whole thing had been previously arranged between Azeff and Ratchkovsky.

AGENT PROVOCATEUR.

During the year 1909 Azeff worked hard for the police, obviously to improve his situation in the *Okhranka* (secret police), which, with the triumph of reaction, had again become omnipotent. He gave away a great number of revolutionists, among them Sulfiar, Grousky, Lauriouet Nikitenko with his comrades, who were supposed to be plotting against the Tsar, Karl Tranberg, and many others. There were absolutely no tangible proofs against them. But they were all court-martialled, hanged or shot, at the bare word of Azeff. In February 1908, a little group of men and women were induced by Azeff to attempt the life of the Minister of Justice, Scheglovitoff. At the critical moment they were all taken with bombs or other weapons in their hands, tried, and hanged.

Who can tell what might have been had Azeff continued in his double activity of terrorist and *agent provocateur*? The fact remains that at the end of last year, Burtzeff, the editor of an historical review, *Byloe*, succeeded in gathering such damning proofs of Azeff's treachery that the Central Committee of the party at last decided to address themselves to Lopukhine, a former director of the Department of Police, in whose service Azeff had been in the time of Plehve.

MR. HELAIRE BELLOC ON THE PRESS.

IN the *English Review*, Mr. H. Belloc, M.P., attacks the Press in an article in which a prudent editor has obliterated the names of persons whom his contributor wished to libel. The piebald appearance recalls the obliterations in "The History of the Mystery." Mr. Belloc says:—

We suffer in England to-day from an evil now generally admitted, and one the knowledge of which has passed from a commonplace among educated men to a joke among the mass of the people. This evil is the impurity of the sources from which we derive our knowledge of public affairs. That information, which is the right of every family in the State, is cancelled or warped at pleasure.

In general, the whole mass of public information, upon which Englishmen depend for the nourishment of public opinion, has long been, and is now everywhere admitted to be, tarnished at the source. We do not get a true picture of the world in which we live. We get a picture which now warps, now inflames, our imagination, which breeds sudden fanaticisms upon petty things and a dulness upon important things. This evil is of the first magnitude; an appreciation of its nature is essential to its cure.

The conclusion which a being dropped from another planet or even from another country would draw from all this would be that a few men of exceptional ingenuity and of infamous character owned our newspapers.

The only remedy he can suggest is that—

every man who has the welfare of his time at heart, and whose opportunities have permitted him to appreciate the vileness of the thing, to attack it (at whatever cost) by word of mouth, in print—when he can get men brave enough to print him—and by his action in challenging and exposing particular men.

He must not talk of the "evils of the opium trade," he must rather mention by name the firms which are engaged in that traffic. He must not be content to show that the Congo Reform business is a fat of cant and hypocrisy; he must get hold of the names of the people who found the money; he must get hold of the facts in the past careers of those who make the agitation, and he must hold them ready to publish.

Surely Mr. Belloc could not have chosen a more unfortunate illustration of the need for exposing the abuses of which he complains. If he had asked for the publication of the names of journalists subsidised by King Leopold to whitewash the infamies perpetrated on the Congo, he would have been nearer the mark.

THE chief attraction of *Pearson's* is a series of reproductions of famous pictures of sleep. There is also a sketch of the Suffragette movement by Sylvia Pankhurst, with one of the most successful photographs ever reproduced of a crowd. It is a view of the Hyde Park demonstration. Gruesome Italian pictures of the Calabrian earthquake are given in a sketch by Mr Douglas Sladen.

LORD MORLEY'S REFORMS.

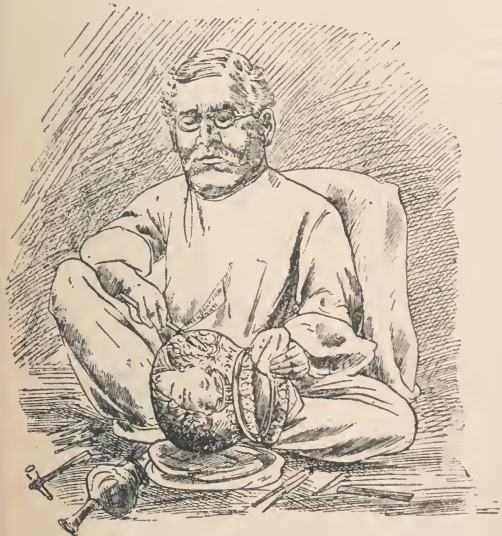
How They are Received in India.

Mr. P. J. Padshah, writing in the February number of *East and West* on the Indian National Congress of 1908, regrets that the Congress should have expressed so whole-hearted an approval of Lord Morley's reforms. Mr. Padshah says :—

I have been always under the impression that the Congress was an independent body of men, endeavouring for years to interpret the feelings, wishes, and aspirations of their countrymen to the rulers. This year, it seemed, the function of the Congress changed. It looked as if the leaders of the Congress met together to interpret the wishes and feelings of the rulers to the mass of their countrymen. The Congress will have abdicated its proper functions when it begins to interpret for the Government and not to the Government. The present writer is one of those who believe that though the Secretary of State's scheme of reforms is a substantial, very substantial, measure of reform, it was not over-generous and that Lord Morley could and would have been more generous if he had not been hampered by restraining influences from India. The Congress leaders, including Mr. Gokhale, seemed to think otherwise, and they have accepted the scheme *in its entirety*. They seemed to say, "They wanted the scheme, the whole scheme and nothing but the scheme."

The *Modern Review* (India) for February protests against Mr. Ghose's defence of coercion. It says :—

We think he was not accurate in speaking of "a season of universal rejoicing." We in Bengal are obtuse enough not to perceive any universal rejoicing. Deportations of respected leaders do not lead to rejoicing, nor the annihilation of associations like the Swadesh Bandhab Samiti. The drastic measures must cease to exist and their operations be reversed before their memory can be buried in oblivion. Punish incitements to violence by all means, but let not the punishments be disproportionately heavy and vindictive. Nor do we see the justice of punishing Indian journals and allowing Anglo-Indian journals to enjoy the liberty of committing virtually the same offence. There is a complete estrangement between the Government and the people in old and new Bengal, notwithstanding what some prominent Bengalis may say.



Hindi Punch] [Bombay.

Dr. Rash Behari Ghose.

A *Punch* portrait of the next President of the Congress.

In the *Indian Review* for January, which publishes a symposium on the subject of Lord Morley's reforms, to which many eminent Indians and British politicians contribute, prefaces its symposium with an article by Romesh Chunder Dutt, who says :—

The reforms announced by Lord Morley in his despatch of November and in his speech of December are solid and substantial, and are precisely in the direction in which the Indian National Congress has demanded reforms during the last twenty years and more. In one word, the changes announced are calculated to give the people of India a substantial share in the control and direction of their own concerns. The voice of the people will find expression through recognised official channels ; the wishes and opinions of the people will influence and shape the internal administration of the country.

I know my countrymen ; and what they have ardently, patiently, and persistently struggled for during a quarter of a century is to obtain a substantial share in shaping and directing and controlling the administration of their own concerns. The path has now been opened, and if we are loyal to ourselves—to our cherished objects, our past declarations, our persistent endeavours—we have it in our power now to make this scheme a success, and to live and work as responsible self-respecting citizens, rather than as irresponsible critics. The future, for good or for evil, lies in our own hands.

By way of encouraging the Indians to be discouraged Mr. A. J. Wilson, of the *Investors' Review*, sends the *Indian Review* the following contribution to its symposium :—

Have the tiny fragments of "liberty" bestowed upon you given you even the least power to stop this policy of ruin? If they have, you may yet save your country from the worst, the most far-reaching, source of anarchy ; if they have not, then they are as useless for all practical purposes as a paper kite against a cyclone. Economy in all departments of the administration ; the reduction of the native army and conversion of most of what is retained of it into a high-class internal police ; a much more extensive employment of natives in all branches of the civil service ; the curtailment of furloughs for Europeans, and an extension of their terms of service so that there might be no pensioners of forty-five to fifty years of age quartered on the people for life and living in Europe, and a substitution of part of the money in these and other ways saved for the constant stream of loans in payment of public works undertaken for the improvement of the country—these are among the reforms to aim at. Without root and branch changes such as these, the country, its people and the Supreme Government are bound to go from bad to worse, no matter what liberty to talk may be bestowed upon its elected native spokesmen.

The *Pall Mall Magazine* each month seems to grow lighter and lighter. Possibly the most serious articles are those on Dr. Alfred Russel Wallace and the King and Queen of Italy, both of which, along with the article on models and model-making, have been separately noticed. Charles Ince gives a very vivid and interesting account of the daily life of a banker's clerk. Commander Currey describes the handy man at Messina and elsewhere in a very laudatory vein. Fiction is plentiful.

THE AIRSHIP AND THE PEACE OF THE WORLD.

HOPES AND FEARS OF THE PACIFICISTS.

BARON D'ESTOURNELLES DE CONSTANT publishes in *La Revue* of February 15th a passionate vindication of his consistency in advocating the building of airships for warlike purposes with his well-known championship of international peace. He points out that the Hague Conference has prohibited the attack or bombardment *by any means whatever* of towns, villages, habitations or buildings which are not defended. The clause in italics was specially added to provide against the contingencies of aerial warfare. But Baron D'Estournelles ridicules as absurd the demand that no airship shall drop explosives on fortresses, an invading army on the march, or a blockading fleet. The airship, he says, is the weapon of the poor, the defenceless, against their insolent and aggressive neighbours. A little State which cannot afford £2,000,000 for a *Dreadnought* can easily equip a dozen aeroplanes which may strike terror into the heart of the owner of many *Dreadnoughts*. Formerly the weak, says the Baron, were crushed in advance. To-day science comes to them and enables them, if not to conquer, at least to give their assailant such a horrid bad time that he will think twice and even thrice before he faces the interior financial and international complications which a weak adversary can bring about. The airship tends to increase the dread with which mankind contemplates war. Therefore to encourage the building of airships is to promote the coming of international peace. Baron D'Estournelles has been fiercely assailed by some pacificists. But Baron D'Estournelles is right. The airship will ultimately lead to the abolition of war.

THE ENTENTE CORDIALE.

IT is now over ten years since the Fashoda incident, which threatened to disturb the cordial relations of two great nations, occurred, and Gabriel Hanotaux thinks it is now permissible to present a "loyal" account of the affair. In the two February numbers of the *Revue des Deux Mondes* he deals at great length with the subject. In the interests of history, truth, and justice, he considers that France played a legitimate part, and that the part was worthy to be played, if only to uphold the good name of the French nation. For a long time England had regarded with uneasiness every effort at French Colonial expansion, but the day will come, he says, when the necessity for the collaboration of France and England everywhere, but especially in such regions as Africa, will be evident; and, it will be recognised, a community of endeavour is preferable to hostile and exclusive claiming of rights. Between old nations and travelling companions mutual considerations are the wisest.

A serious problem in France, as in England, is the question of Home Industries and Sweating, and apparently a French commission of inquiry into the subject has recently issued a report. In the first February number of the *Revue des Deux Mondes* the Comte d'Haussonville tells some startling facts, showing how great is the evil, but concludes his article by recommending no legislative intervention in the matter until the experiences of England with a fixed legal minimum wage can be studied. If England succeeds, France can profit by the lesson and thus derive an additional benefit from the *entente cordiale*.

A COURT SANS REPROCHE.

THE King and Queen of Italy, with their family, form the subject of a most eulogistic sketch in the *Pall Mall*, by Rev. Alexander Robertson, D.D. It is all very charming to hear of such perfectness, combined with such high station. But one wonders if ever mere mortals could attain to the spotless perfection attributed to the Royal pair. Certain it is that the King is shown to be a man of exemplary character and kindness. He is described as a "perfect model as a husband and a father. Viewed from the highest of all standpoints, that of religion and morality, no greater praise could be bestowed on a sovereign." He wears the white flower of a blameless life. His marriage was a union of love :—

King Victor Emmanuel III. himself has brought order and purity into his Court, so that now, like that of England, it is above suspicion. If anyone examines the lists of the ladies-of-honour and of the gentlemen-of-honour, he will discover certain interesting things. In the first place, they are all married people. There are no maids or bachelors on the lists. In the second place, the lists exactly correspond, the same names occurring in each. That is to say, only married couples have been chosen, the husband as a gentleman-of-honour, his wife as a lady-of-honour. I suppose this is unique in a European Court, and it is an arrangement made lately by the King in the interest of seriousness and stability and propriety.

In the Army he has forbidden duelling, which was once more prevalent amongst Italians than amongst Germans, but has now almost disappeared. Of the boy Prince Humbert it is said :—

He has some senses marvellously developed, notably his sense of smell. It is to him a source of information closed to others. By means of it he can tell to whom of those around him gloves, handkerchiefs, ties, and things of that nature belong. Medical men consider his gift in this respect quite phenomenal.

Age Recants Youth.

IN reviewing Rev. C. H. Irwin's "Life of Calvin," Rev. Dr. Fairbairn (late Principal of Mansfield College) in the *Sunday at Home* concludes with this autobiographical confession :—

One of my first literary ventures was on this Calvin. I had read his letters, and thought I had discovered how little he appreciated, not only the beauty of the nature around him, but the qualities of the people that aided him in his work. I wrote as I then felt. An ignorant lad I was, and knew no better than to defame a man whose shoe I was not worthy to carry or its latchet to unloose. Since then I have learned better. Much study of the man and his time has proved him to be what he was, and is now recognised to be by all critics—a great Frenchman, who revived French by leading it as a language back to its sources, and who wrote a coherent work in it concerning themes that were to be later made illustrious by the genius of Bossuet and Pascal. The men who so estimate John Calvin have no other standard of comparison, and say thus concerning him the best thing they know.

A CURIOUS VIEW OF THE ENGLISH.

A "DEMOCRATIC" BRIEF FOR THE PEERS.

ENGLAND and the English are represented in *Scribner's* from an American point of view, sympathetic, admiring, but in some respects rather apt to raise a smile amongst the Englishmen themselves. In trying to find the real Englishmen that rule the world, he calmly wipes out the whole of the thirty-eight millions of our population who are poor! Out of the remaining five millions he estimates there are about only one million male adults.

ONE MILLION ENGLISH RULE ONE-FIFTH OF THE WORLD.

He arrives at this startling conclusion—that about one million Englishmen of the ruling class control one-fifth of the known surface of the globe, and one in every five of all the inhabitants thereof. It is to be hoped that the working-classes will appreciate this tribute to their impotence. The writer declares that "the Englishman is an acquired taste"; and certainly if he limits his purview to the million Englishmen aforesaid there may be some ground for the remark. The real Englishman he traces back to the Saxons, who were not marauders or pirates like the Jutes, but independent farmers, an agricultural people of the peasant class, with no trace of feudalism amongst them. What they wanted above all else was independence on their own estates.

WHAT THE LONDON POLICEMAN MEANS.

The London policeman with his hand uplifted is the symbol, the embodiment of the spirit of the race which has fought off Jutes, Angles, Danes and Normans, which has broken nobles and beheaded kings in order to be let alone to attend to their own affairs in their own way. Both House of Lords and House of Commons owe their existence to the fact that the Saxons did not wish to be bothered by attendance at their assemblies. The writer expects that Americans will in time slough off the political clothing put upon them by Latin and Celtic parasites, and insist on being governed by the best and wisest amongst them, and not by those whose living is derived by governing others because they cannot govern themselves.

"THE MOST DEMOCRATIC THING IN ENGLAND!"

From this curious interpretation of democracy the writer goes on to the still more extraordinary remark: "Strangely enough, however, the House of Lords still remains the most democratic institution in England." "It is composed to-day to an overwhelming extent of successful men from almost every walk in life." It exists, he says, because in the long run it has been recognised as an assembly whose opinion is as nearly as possible the opinion of a consensus of the competent. Verily distance lends enchantment to the view. As a proof of the true English spirit, the writer goes so far as to adduce the fact that the House of Commons of 1801, with a membership of 658, included 425 who were returned either on the nomination or the recommendation of 252 patrons.

OLIGARCHY THE TRUE AND ONLY DEMOCRACY.

"Thus has England been governed persistently by the few. Nor has this been against the wishes of the many. I am inclined to look upon this as the most important factor in their wonderful growth as a nation." The writer does not say that he regards the extension of franchise in 1832 and 1867 as an apostasy from the true English standard of "democracy." He says we have practically now, to all intents and purposes, male adult suffrage, "notwithstanding up to the election of members to this present Parliament, when an unusual number of Labour members were elected, Parliament has been composed of an overwhelming majority chosen from the leisured classes." The English voter "still believes in his gentry as most to be trusted and best qualified to govern. He has a rooted distrust in those who wish to be paid to govern."

THREE REQUISITES OF A THRIVING PEOPLE.

The writer urges that "one might choose as the three requisites of a people that should prosper and conquer: that they should believe in God, live on the land, and let their leaders govern." Only recently, he says, has England ceased to be a nation of farmers. He declares that the English are not a war-like people.

OUR "HAUGHTY EGOTISM."

Notwithstanding the partiality that he feels towards the English people—say, rather, the creature of his romantic imagination which does duty for the race—he is able to see our national arrogance, which possibly belongs to the same "democratic" spirit as has maintained the House of Lords. He quotes Lord Curzon's dedication of Problems of the Near East, and declares rather spicily:—

> Here is the haughty egotism that would make Alexander, Cæsar, or Napoleon turn pale. Who believes that the world is better where England dominates? The English. Who believes that India is happier? The English. Who believes that Ireland is happier? The English. Who believes that the East under English protection is happier? The English. Who believes that North America is happier? The English. But what do the four hundred millions of people, controlled by these million English gentlemen, whose omniscient prophet Lord Curzon is—what do they think? What do they say?

ARROGANCE? OR "COMMON SENSE"?

He says that this amazing assumption that England and God have between them done more for the world than any other people is a characteristic of this people that cannot be too often insisted upon. It is not a pose with them, it is not impudence; it is a rooted belief in their own superiority. The writer concludes by giving an answer to his own question which is rather at variance with his testimony. "Who are the English? What are the English? They are Saxons who love the land, who love their liberty, and whose sole claim to genius is their common sense"!!

A QUEEN'S GIRLHOOD.

"TRAINING Wilhelmina to be a Queen" is the title of a charming series of reminiscences begun in the *Girl's Own Paper* by Miss Winter, who was for ten years English governess to the present Queen of Holland. She says that the little Princess when five years of age lived just such a happy simple life as most children live. The Princess and her little French companion had a glorified doll's house, furnished with every convenience, with prettily proportioned furniture, and a little family consisting of boys and girls of all sizes, and a baby in long clothes. The care of these occupied a great portion of each day. They were put to bed, got up, taken for drives and walks, played games, listened to stories, and had their regular meals with as much seriousness as though they were living beings. Being an only child, the Queen-Mother resolved that Wilhelmina should see plenty of other children, and one or more afternoons of each week were devoted to the entertainment of Dutch children of high place; and unrestricted romping and fun were the order of the day. A large suite of rooms, sparingly furnished, were given up to "Blind Man's Buff," "Hide and Seek," "Rounders," and endless other games.

Queen Wilhelmina.

The little Princess was decidedly mischievous. Noting in one of their rambles through the woods at Wildungen that her governess did not like black beetles, she promptly set about filling the governess's pockets with the sleeping little beetles, and waited with suppressed excitement for the moment of their awakening. The Queen-Mother herself taught the Princess needlework. The girl also was trained to cut out pictures and paste them into scrap-books for the children's hospital. Most of every day was spent in the open, and the little girl delighted in making sand pies. One of her fancies was to have two small goats in harness.

FIRST EXPERIENCES AS SQUIRE.

The King built for his child, near Het Loo, a charming Swiss *châlet*, forming the nucleus of a small estate, over which the Princess was allowed to exercise a certain amount of independent control. Princess and governess alike gave themselves up with eagerness to the art of potato planting and digging, sowing of seeds, thinning carrot beds, pricking lettuce, etc., etc. An island in the middle of the largest lake was the scene of much romantic excitement, voyages of discovery, Indian skirmishes, gipsy encampments, ordinary picnics, etc. On this island the Princess used to light a little fire and roast potatoes. The King also gave his dearly loved daughter four charming rough-coated Shetland ponies, and two pretty carriages for driving either a pair or four-in-hand. She called them by English names.

TAUGHT AS IN A COMMON SCHOOL.

The very interesting fact is mentioned that her Royal parents decided that the Princess should, at any rate for a time, be taught on the same lines as those prescribed by the Dutch Government in the ordinary National Schools, and the headmaster of one of these schools at the Hague was appointed as the instructor of the Princess. Fancy the stir that would be made in London were the children of the Prince of Wales to be taught the ordinary curriculum by the headmaster of a public elementary school under the London County Council! These lessons began in the case of the Princess at the age of six and a half years. Her master adopted the excellent device of telling her stories, which she was bound to tell over again to him two days later.

When she first went to travel *incognito*, and had to wait for a long time in consequence of the ordinary train being late, she remarked, after twenty minutes' delay, "Well, if this is travelling *incognito*, I don't think it at all amusing." A very important point in her education and preparation for Royal power was the arrangement by which she visited each of the provinces in turn, taking one or two each year, so that the whole Dutch population should have an opportunity of seeing their future Queen.

Christianity Coming Back to Oxford!

POSITIVISM long ago migrated to London; Spencerianism is a ghost; Mill is by no means dead, though his followers are comparatively few and less submissive than they were. The influence of T. H. Green, based on his noble character and personal charm, still endures, though his philosophy is criticised like everything in Oxford except the multiplication table. New Realism is to have its turn. But the most remarkable and significant change of all is that Christianity of a very definite kind has come back; the acceptance of it is no longer held to be a mark of obscurantism or intellectual inferiority, and it holds many of our most able and earnest men.—THE WARDEN OF WADHAM on "Oxford, Past and Present," in *Blackwood*.

THE CHINESE EMPEROR.

THE TRUTH ABOUT HIS DEATH.

IN the first February number of *La Revue*, Francis Mury gives us what is claimed to be the truth concerning the death of the Emperor Kuang Siu, for the official version, he says, was dictated by other considerations than a regard for truth.

Everyone at Pekin knew that the Emperor was not to survive the Dowager Empress. Even Kuang Siu himself knew it so well as to wish length of days for one who had always shown herself his most cruel enemy, but death, after all, must have been a happy deliverance for the unhappy Emperor.

When all hope of saving the life of the Dowager Empress was past, a Grand Council was summoned to choose a successor to Kuang Siu. Then the Dowager Empress retained Yuan Chi Kai and the old Prince Tsing, and sent for the grand-master of the eunuchs of the Palace. Definite measures were decided upon, and it was officially announced that the Emperor, who had been suffering for some time from acute neurasthenia, was now attacked by a serious cardiac affection. Two Legations offered to send their doctors to visit him, but their offers were declined.

Next day, at ten o'clock, the grand-master of the eunuchs, with two confidential companions, went to the Palace of the Emperor and announced to him that the Dowager Empress was about to die, and that he must accompany her into the tomb. At the same time the grand-master deposited beside the Emperor some balls of opium, some gold-leaf with which to asphyxiate himself, and a lace of yellow silk. Then he retired, saying that he would return at one, and if he then found that Kuang Siu had not absorbed the opium or inhaled the gold-leaf, he, the grand-master of the eunuchs, and his two companions who were to guard the door, would be under the necessity of strangling him with the yellow silk lace.

Meanwhile Kuang Siu was left alone, isolated from the rest of the world and at the mercy of two soldiers. What may have been his reflections during the last hours of his life! In due time the grand-master returned and found that the opium had disappeared, while the Emperor was lying on his couch, his heart beating feebly, and respiration almost extinct. Yuan Chi Kai immediately informed the Dowager Empress of the state of her nephew, and announced to the Foreign Legations that Kuang Siu's condition was desperate, while Prince Tsing was sent to place offerings on the Imperial tombs. Kuang Siu did not die till five o'clock, and though the Empress could now die in peace, she lived another twenty-four hours. By a supreme irony Yuan Chi Kai presided with Prince Tsing over the obsequies of the Emperor, but here, too, it was doubtless necessary to save appearances.

THE chief pictorial feature of February *Scribner's* is Mr. E. S. Curtis's sketch of the Indians of the Stone Houses, with illustrations from photographs reproduced in tint.

MENDELSSOHN IN ENGLAND.

THE February issue of the *Musical Times* is a Mendelssohn number, and the centenary tribute to the composer takes the form of "a little talk" on his various visits to England.

A red-letter day in the history of the Philharmonic Society, and in the career of Mendelssohn, was May 25th, 1829, when he made his first public appearance before an English audience and conducted his C minor Symphony, for it was in this way that an English body gave Mendelssohn his first recognition as a composer. Apparently bâtons could not be purchased in London at that time, as a "white stick" had to be specially manufactured for the occasion, and the maker, mistaking Mendelssohn for an alderman, insisted on decorating it with a crown. At another concert, given on Midsummer Night, he conducted his "Midsummer Night's Dream" Overture.

At the end of the London season he and his friend started on a tour in England, Scotland, and Wales. Amid the ruins of the chapel of Holyrood Mendelssohn received the first inspiration of the Scotch Symphony. "I believe I found to-day in that old chapel the beginning of my Scotch Symphony," he said; and in the evening he wrote down the first sixteen bars. Further creative results of the Scotch tour were the "Hebrides" or "Fingal's Cave" overture and the Sonate Ecossaise.

During the visits of 1833 Mendelssohn again saw much of his devoted friends, Ignaz Moscheles and Mrs. Moscheles, but this year the tie was strengthened by Mendelssohn standing as godfather to their little son, who was named Felix. In 1842 Mendelssohn brought his wife to England, and on this visit composed the well-known "Spring Song," and the children's pieces commonly called "Christmas Pieces." The same year he made two visits to the Queen and Prince Consort at Buckingham Palace, when the Queen sang some of his songs to his pianoforte accompaniment. The year 1846 saw him again in England for the production of his oratorio, "Elijah," at the Birmingham Festival. In 1847, when on his tenth visit to England, one of his latest calls was to take leave of the Queen and Prince Consort, when the Queen and Mendelssohn discussed in the nursery of the palace their respective children. Within six months after his return to Germany his music-loving soul was calmed in death.

East and West, not North and South.

THAT is the cry of the Canadian patriot as voiced by Sir Thomas Shaughnessy in *Canada West* for February. He urges that if trade is developed North and South, Western Canada will tend to become bound to the United States by the strong tie of commercial dependence. He urges:—

> This is something which we must try earnestly to avoid. We must establish such relations between the merchants and manufacturers of the East and the merchants and consumers of Western Canada, as will make the trend of traffic and of social intercourse in Canada east and west.

DR. RUSSEL WALLACE AT HOME.

THE *Pall Mall Magazine* contains a sketch by Ernest H. Rann of Dr. Alfred Russel Wallace at home. Last July was the anniversary of the meeting at which the joint discovery of natural selection by Charles Darwin and Dr. Wallace was made. He was presented with the first Darwin-Wallace medal.

THE DISCOVERY OF "NATURAL SELECTION."

The writer tells how fifty-one years ago, at the Island of Ternate, in the Malay Archipelago, Wallace was a young naturalist, stricken with fever, and as he lay on a sick-bed and pondered over the problem of life there flashed upon his mind that Malthus' idea of the checks to increase afforded by war, pestilence and famine was a self-acting process that would improve the race—that the weakest would go to the wall and the fittest would survive. He communicated this idea to Charles Darwin—with results.

HARD AT WORK AT EIGHTY.

Mr. Rann visited the aged naturalist at his house at Broadstone, in Dorsetshire, and says that though the doctor is past his eightieth birthday, his spring-like vigour and abounding vitality came with a good deal of surprise. Despite his great age, his figure still bears traces of his commanding presence. The form is tall and spare, the shoulders slightly bowed, the head poised with strength and dignity bears the heavy snows of eighty winters. From beneath bushy brows kindly blue eyes look out with alternate flashings of criticism and humour. The aged *savant* confesses that he was always at work. "As a rule, I manage two hours' work every morning. In the afternoon I take a quiet doze, or content myself with watching the harbour. In the evening I am ready for another spell of writing or study."

He admitted that Spencer, in spite of his vast learning, was not a well-read man. He was more a thinker than a reader—a born thinker, if there ever was one. He was right in keeping his reading within limits and giving his attention solely to his philosophy.

HIS CRITICISM OF SOCIALISM.

Dr. Wallace criticises the Socialist M.P.'s for dealing with the unemployed problem on the old and false lines. In the co-operative community, such as he would have it to be, there would be no profits at all. Possibly Tariff Reformers may make something of his statement—that one of our chief troubles at the present time is that we, as a country, are too little self contained. We import hundreds of things which we could very well do without—tea and coffee, for instance. Until Elizabeth, the common people were content with beer. Why should we not renounce sugar, and return to the old-fashioned honey, or extract sugar from the beet, that can be grown in England? He considers the export of coal and iron as a crime against posterity. He thinks that either England or Germany is the first country where the Socialist State would be established.

SPIRITUALIST.

Dr. Wallace reaffirmed his faith in Spiritualism. Scientific men are not so materialistic as they were half a century ago. He said, "They are only coming round to accept the possibility of what we know." He showed drawings done in trance by a young iron-worker, who had never had any training in art. Another was a trance copy of a picture in the Louvre done from memory. A Raphael cartoon is in the style of that great artist, but such a picture is, he said, entirely unknown in England and the galleries of Europe. This, too, was drawn under spirit influence, stated to be that of Raphael himself.

A SORT OF VEGETARIAN.

While a believer in vegetarianism, he is a meat-eater himself, adding, "You cannot alter the habits of mankind in a single generation. Vegetarianism is a reform which will come gradually, when people have learned that there are other foods than those to which they have been accustomed. You cannot force the pace; if you try to do so, it simply gives a set-back to the movement." He is fond of novels, especially Scott and Dickens, but he finds many of the books written recently worth his time and attention. He mentions Richard Whiteing, Marion Crawford, Mary Johnstone, Rider Haggard, Winston Churchill, Harold Frederic, W. W. Jacobs, Mark Twain, Robert Blatchford. In the small conservatory adjoining the study he has a fine collection of tropical plants. Scarcely a week passes, he says, without a request for an autograph, especially from America. "I always send it," he says. The old man intends to write an indication of the position of himself and his great co-worker Darwin in respect to modern views of evolution.

THE WORKING MAN AS CHIEF INVENTOR.

IN a paper which George Frederic Stratton contributes to *Cassier's* on the development of the mechanical engineer, there is quoted an address recently made before a Convention of Labour delegates, which is perhaps one of the most interesting passages in the paper. The Labour speaker said:—

To whom can we credit the development of all the great mechanical arts if not to the working man? Did any trained, professional engineer have anything to do with the practical adoption of steam for power, the invention of textile machines, or the adaptation of electricity for lighting and driving? George Stephenson was a fireman; Watt an instrument maker; and Newcomen, a blacksmith. Arkwright, the inventor of the spinning machine, was a barber; Jacquard, of silk-loom fame, a typefounder. In our America, Fulton, the originator of the steamboat, was a painter; Corliss, a self-trained machinist; Robert Hoe, the greatest of printing-press inventors, was a tool maker. We find it the same with pioneers in electricity. Benjamin Franklin was a printer; Morse a painter; Edison a news seller and telegraph operator; Elihu Thomson, a chemist; Van Depoele, a cabinet maker. It is true that Brush and Westinghouse were mechanical engineers, but they were not electrical engineers. That is the point I want to make—that these great industries were developed by men who were untrained in them. The engineer was a development of the industry, and the industry was initiated by the working man.

COUNT TOLSTOI'S LATEST SERMON

SUMMARISED BY HIMSELF.

THE first part of a very lengthy sermon by Count Tolstoi appears in the *Fortnightly Review* for March. It is like a Puritan discourse divided up into ten "heads," and to be continued in our next. In order to avoid any possibility that his meaning may be missed owing to his prolixity, the Count obligingly summarises the contents of each of his "heads," which as a curiosity I quote just as he has writtten it. He begins :—

Why do I write ?—The wretchedness of the life of the people of Christendom is plain to all.—The cause is the absence of a general understanding of life, and of the guidance for conduct that should flow therefrom.—The means of liberation from wretchedness is to be found in the acceptance of the true Christian teaching.

I.

Dissension and wretchedness come from lack of faith and of the guidance for conduct which would flow therefrom.—Christianity was at first accepted in a perverted form, and as a result people live to-day without any religion. Among the common people there is an unconscious disbelief, and among educated people a conscious repudiation of belief.

II.

Enmity between workers and non-workers, and between enslaved races and their enslavers.—The lack of moral bases provided by religion, which could counteract this bestial strife.

III.

The essence of the error which has led to this wretchedness is the acceptance of force as a means of obtaining union. The failure of this means is beginning to be generally acknowledged by everyone.

IV

Side by side with technical improvements, we have falsehood hiding the misery of men.—This misery must end in the acceptance of a religious outlook on life, suitable to our times.

V.

The Christian peoples have based their life on a teaching which denied it. At first the Church teaching united men. But in time the true meaning of that teaching began to manifest itself. The labourers ceased to believe in Church religion, and the educated began to deny all religion. The acceptance of a religious teaching which belauds force has deprived people of our day of any religion. As a result they have fallen lower than those who profess the crudest religious doctrines.

VI.

The tragedy of Christendom is that a religious teaching was accepted which in reality disavowed the existing social order.—At first, in the perverted form of the teaching, this was not noticeable; but now one cannot avoid understanding this teaching in its true meaning—destructive of the existing order of things.

VII.

The true Christian teaching consists in the acknowledgment of love as the supreme law of human life.—Former religions recognised love as merely one among the virtues.—Christ's teaching sets love as the basis of all things, and makes it the guide to conduct.—Extracts from the New Testament about love.—A consequence of this acknowledgment of love as the supreme basis of life is the repudiation of all violence.—Pseudo-Christianity conceals this.

VIII.

The supreme Christian law of love admits of no exception condoning violence.—But "educated" people cannot put up with the denial of violence, for that would destroy the basis of their life.—The participation of labouring men in Governmental violence results from fraud.—The essence of that fraud, stated by La Boétie.—Workmen do not see this deception, and cannot cease to use force against themselves, from lack of faith.

IX.

Now, after the "Revolution" and the "reaction," the less depraved Russian people should perceive the means of salvation.—Description of the trial of men who had refused military service.

X.

Refusals of military service occurred long ago : Fathers of the Church, Christian martyrs.

THE "STRAND" PAGEANT.

A CLEVER, if somewhat whimsical idea is developed in the *Strand* by the joint skill of Mr. Morley Adams and Mr. Ernest Mills. As the London Pageant has been postponed for another year, the *Strand* will have its own imaginary pageant, and as its pageanteers to represent ancient celebrities will select only modern celebrities. In the humorous vein of fiction in which the writer delights, "some half-dozen celebrities were willing and anxious to represent such a popular character as Oliver Cromwell." The run on Cromwell has been positively bewildering. For the original London pageant, now postponed, Mr. W. T. Stead "nobly offered to sacrifice his magnificent beard, so that he might the more faithfully represent the much-desired Cromwell, and this in spite of the fact that he has not used the razor from his youth up." Mr. Mills accordingly gives a picture of Mr. W. T. Stead, minus his beard, as Cromwell. Mr. Adams proceeds that "the noble example of self-sacrifice thus set out has suggested that Mr. Lloyd George, for example, would go one better than Mr. Stead, would give up his moustache, lop off an arm, gouge out an eye, to represent Lord Nelson." We are able, by the courtesy of the *Strand*, to reproduce the transformation of the Chancellor of the Exchequer as our frontispiece this month. Mr. John Burns is similarly photographically reproduced as a Yeoman of the Guard. Perhaps the most amusing and daring of all the transformations is that representing the Right Hon. Winston Churchill as Queen Elizabeth. Similarly, Dr. Clifford appears as Friar Tuck, "thereby sacrificing a part of his Nonconformist conscience." Rev. R. J. Campbell appropriately appears as Mary Queen of Scots, the Bishop of London as King John, Mr. W. W. Jacobs as Anne Boleyn, Mr Bernard Shaw as Shakespeare, "however great the condescension might be." Mr. Rufus Isaacs appears as Charles I. before losing his head, Sir Frederick Treves as William the Conqueror, Mark Twain as Thomas à Becket, Mr. Haldane as Dr. Johnson, Sir William Treloar as Sir Walter Raleigh, Sir F. C. Gould as King Arthur. Mrs. Pankhurst is transformed into Julius Cæsar, Miss Annie Kenny into Joan of Arc, and Mrs. Annie Besant into Cardinal Wolsey. The article is one of the best pieces of fun ever done by combined pen and camera.

THE *Modern Review* for February publishes a weighty protest against the semi-slavery enforced in the province of Kumaon, under the name of the Utar system.

SPIDER-WEBBING THE UNITED STATES

BY MEANS OF THE TROLLEY CAR.

THE electric tramcar has in London proved itself a most serious rival to the suburban railways, who are being forced to electrify their systems, and so take a leaf out of their rivals' book. But probably few readers are aware of the enormous development in a similar direction which has taken place, not within the great cities merely, but between the cities of the United States. In *Cassier's* for February Mr. G. E. Walsh describes inter-urban railway developments in the United States.

He says that in many parts of the United States the railroads have actually capitulated to the tramcar. He says inter-urban trolleys have made greater progress in the past few years in America than the steam railways. Within a decade their work inside of the cities had been largely achieved in making travel easy, cheap and practicable. Then they invaded the immediate suburbs of the cities. Now connecting systems have begun to parallel the steam railroads.

GOODS SENT BY TRAM.

The fast inter-urban trolley came, and the freight-carrying electric service. The power to carry merchandise was the most serious inroad upon the field and prerogatives of the railroads. The trolley lines first took only small express packages and light merchandise, and then perishable articles from the farms. Now they are undertaking transportation of heavy freight.

OPENING UP RURAL DISTRICTS.

They not merely compete with the railways. They are striking out in new districts. They are establishing parallel lines in the Middle and Far West United States, where steam roads have never been built. A new incentive to trade has been given, and the country is consequently rapidly developing. For small freight and express merchandise the inter-urban trolley line has become indispensable in the rural districts, both because of the reduced carrying charges and the quickness of delivery. Goods ordered one day by telephone can be delivered the following morning by trolley. The country or village shopman takes an order from a customer, and telephones it to the wholesale dealer, who delivers the goods direct to the purchaser. But the bill is made to the country store, and the retail merchant gets his commission.

GREAT BOON TO FARMERS.

The farmer, who a few years ago had to drive five or ten miles to the nearest station, now finds the trolley car stopping almost at his door. In his busiest season, when his horse teams and men are otherwise in demand, the convenience can be well imagined. The inter-urban trolley has been brought to its highest development in Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, and other Middle Western States, and almost to the same pitch in parts of New England and New York. What is perhaps most surprising to us is that the time taken by the trolley car is almost the same as that taken by the railway, and the fares are slightly lower. One can travel on the electric tram in one direction a distance of 138 miles in four hours and forty minutes.

A MAMMOTH TRAMCAR.

As may be expected, from the increase in traffic the cars themselves have developed:—

> The modern fast inter-urban trolley car is a mammoth affair compared to the type in vogue five or ten years ago. A car of the better class is from 50 to 60 feet in length, and it possesses all the equipments and luxuries of a steam train. They contain baggage departments, toilet rooms and buffet compartments. They have outside seats for summer travel, well protected in front, and have closed compartments for winter traffic. On some of the lines, such as the Lake Shore Electric, the cars are run in trains of two or three; but unless the traffic warrants it they are operated singly on most of the roads.

By the tickets issued on these lines it would be possible to travel four or five hundred miles in one direction, and the time required is about the same as by steam railway train, or even less. Before long, fast trips will be made by trolley from Chicago to New York or to Portland. In such States as Indiana and Ohio the trolleys have already cut down the railway passenger service nearly one-half. The railways are trying to recover lost ground by running light trains propelled by gasolene, or by electricity. The trolleys are not merely rivals, but often allies, of the railways. There is a co-operative exchange of transportation.

REVOLUTIONISING THE VILLAGE.

The social result of this marvellous development of the trolley car promises to bring every community into close touch with the large cities. Already they have helped the small community, and made rural life more pleasant and satisfactory. They have revolutionised village trading, and given the small merchant almost the same advantages enjoyed by the City business man. City and country are welded together. The country becomes the feeder to the towns, large and small; trade and commerce flow more easily and rapidly through these thin avenues of exchange which criss-cross the country like the fine threads of a spider's web. The redistribution of the population by the trolleys is not the least of the important results produced.

All this opens up to the Home Country a vista of vast rural development. When we have spider webbed England with the electric tramcar, more may be achieved in the development of the rural districts than either Liberals propose or Lords prevent.

AN excellent variation on the ordinary method of "doing" Japan is described by Irene Lyon in the *Wide World Magazine*. After six weeks of conventional sight-seeing, she and a friend decided to spend a week off the tourist track, living as far as possible the life of the natives. This entailed some surprises, notably in the baths, where the paper walls proved sadly insecure.

PLANTS THAT FORETELL WEATHER.

MR. S. LEONARD BASTIN, in the March *Treasury*, gives particulars of a few of the more striking instances of plants which may be said to foretell weather, or at least which are curiously sensitive to weather changes. One of the first of these to be observed was the scarlet pimpernel. It is only when the day is fine and the sky almost free from clouds that its brilliant little flowers uphold their petals to the light. At the approach of less settled conditions the blossoms promptly shut up, and will not unroll their petals until the weather is clear again. The wood anemone acts in a similar way, its flowers fully expanding in bright weather, while on an inclement day they not only gather their petals together but droop, at times even turning their backs to the chilling breeze.

There are few leguminous species which do not alter the position of their foliage when the weather is dull and unsettled, or if cold conditions are likely to prevail. One of the commonest cases is the clover. On a rainy day the leaflets are drawn closely together, but their position alters speedily if there is a prospect of fine weather. Still more responsive to unkind conditions are the members of the sorrel tribe. If a plant of the white-flowered form of sorrel is put into a saucer and kept well supplied with water it will give indications of fine weather when its leaves are bravely expanded, while during unsettled conditions the delicate leaves are drawn together in disconsolate fashion. The "Purple Shamrock," although not quite so sensitive as the wood sorrel, is also said to be a very interesting "weather plant" to grow.

The Torrent as Source of Tamed Lightning.

"THE White Coal of Sweden" is the rather bizarre title given to an interesting paper in *Cassier's* on the development of the hydraulic power of Scandinavia. Sweden has been for a long period the greatest producer of iron in Europe, but has unfortunately lacked coal. Now, however, though coal has been found, of a somewhat inferior quality, the chief hope of developing home industry lies in the harnessing of the waterfall. It is estimated that the amount of water power which might be economically used as electric energy within a reasonable time, and subject to some regulation of the lakes, is not less than four million horse power at the turbine shaft. When this four million horse power, now running loose, is harnessed to the shafts of industry, there ought to be an enormous industrial revival in Sweden. But, just as Sweden lacks coal, it lacks capital. The invitation to capitalists on the lookout for suitable investment is obvious.

It is interesting to see how the mountain and the torrent, once regarded as the least productive of natural phenomena, are now reckoned amongst the greatest sources of potential wealth.

DR. G. B. CLARK publishes his Impressions of the Madras Congress in the *Indian Review* for January.

"THE IDOL OF ALL RUSSIA."

THIS, according to a paper by Sergius Volkhovsky, in the *Lady's Realm*, is not the Tsar, but a certain Russian gipsy singer:—

Ten years ago Wialsewa was a servant on a country estate in the province of Moscow. Nobody knows exactly who her parents were. She had grown up in the village without either mother or father, and, when sixteen years old, went to serve at the manor house. The inhabitants were old-fashioned ladies. They took a fancy to Vera, as Wialsewa was then known, and liked her to sing to them in the evenings. She had a beautiful voice, and sang the Russian folk-songs.

THE LOVER-DISCOVERER.

One day a young officer came to see the ladies. His name was Wialsew and his regiment was in Petersburg. He fell in love with Vera, and asked her if she would like to make a career as a singer in a gipsy chorus in Petersburg. The girl, who felt restless in the manor, agreed. They went to the capital together, and Wialsew paid for her to have singing lessons.

A GIPSY SERVING-MAID.

The writer tells a story which recalls the beginning of Tolstoy's "Resurrection":—

When Wialsew invited his guests Vera was the principal singer. She was beautifully dressed in a gipsy costume and her dark hair was then undyed. People still speak of that evening with enthusiasm. Vera sang song after song, and still, though the night lengthened into morning, her listeners had not had enough. They covered her plate with money and begged her to sing on.

WEALTH, FAME, MARRIAGE.

Before many weeks were past Vera sang with her bodice covered with jewels. All Petersburg was at her feet. Grand Dukes vied with each other for her favour, and it was whispered that the Tsar himself had heard and was enamoured. Wialsew began to be jealous of his rivals. He begged Vera to leave all this and go away with him to some quiet place where they would be alone. She consented, and for a while Vera disappeared from her old haunts. But her gipsy nature could not bear the monotonous life of Wialsew's country house, and she was soon in Petersburg again. Some say that he then followed her and married her; others that they had already been married for some time. He settled all his fortune upon her and begged her to leave the restaurants. She refused.

AT THE FRONT.

When her husband was ordered to the front in the Japanese war, she followed him, and her tour across Siberia elicited the homage which might be accorded to an empress. Her arrival in Manchuria was hailed as if it were a victory over the Japanese. Her husband died from the effects of a wound received in the war, and left her a large fortune. She cannot settle down, but goes from town to town singing, with her gipsy chorus.

THE *Open Court* is evidently determined to expose what it considers to be the fraud of mediums. An episode in the life of a medium, which sounds preternatural enough, is by the editor explained away, and he begins a series of revelations of an ex-medium. The first instalment shows how the ex-medium was converted to Spiritualism.

SOLVING THE PROBLEM OF THE FEEBLE-MINDED.

THERE are few problems so difficult of solution as that of what should be done for the feeble-minded. The Report of the Royal Commission on the Poor Law brings the question again into prominence, and emphasises the necessity of at any rate separating these unfortunates from others whose minds are unaffected. I commend to my readers an article in the March number of the *Crucible* by Dr. Alice Johnson, on the Waverley School and Templeton Colony for the Feeble-minded in Massachusetts, U.S.A.

GRADING IS THE FUNDAMENTAL BASIS OF METHOD.

"After visiting many institutions in different countries," says Dr. Johnson, "I have found the question best solved at this school and colony." She then proceeds to describe this almost ideal institution:—

The grading of the inmates of the various blocks is very carefully considered, the doctors, matrons and teachers together taking counsel over each case, and a large part of the success of the whole system turns on the extreme care with which this is done. The reason is obvious, since it is a well-known fact that a feeble-minded child, placed with others of either a higher or a lower grade than itself, rapidly deteriorates. The hopelessness of the higher companionship and the absence of stimulus in the lower are equally fatal.

The school consists of some sixteen blocks of buildings, situated on the top of a hill eight miles from Boston, and standing in 149 acres of picturesque wooded land. The superintendent, Dr. Fernald, is assisted by four doctors (two ladies and two men), one head matron, ten block matrons, eleven lady teachers, eight male instructors in manual training, two stenographers, two storekeepers, a housekeeper, forty nurses, and forty male attendants. There are about 1,050 inmates of both sexes, who are admitted between the ages of five and fifty:—

The boys and girls under eighteen years of age are taught in the twelve class-rooms of the School block. It is in the classes that the finest grading of all is achieved, no class consisting of more than fifteen children, and several of less. The duration of a lesson is from five to thirty minutes, according to the capacity of the class. The subjects are limited to reading, writing, arithmetic, drawing, modelling, domestic training and object lessons. Only expert teachers are engaged in the school, they only teach their own subjects, and are all University women. No child is allowed to be in the School block for more than two hours a day, these two hours being discreetly broken by recreation and games.

After giving an account of the different kinds of manual work taught, Dr. Johnson describes the gymnasium, which is the busiest spot in the school.

IDLENESS THE ARCH ENEMY.

Throughout the whole institution there was not a single child idle or unoccupied, with the exception of the sick and totally paralysed:—

Idleness is the arch enemy of the mentally deficient; it makes him miserable, mischievous, and depraved as a direct result of his lack of self-control, and, further, the feeble-minded child has feeble muscles and a feeble circulation (one of the causes of depression), and this evil is accentuated by want of movement. Realising this, Dr. Fernald ordains that from the moment the children get up in the morning until they go to bed at night they should be occupied in either play, work, or exercise.

Only those teachers and nurses are kept who are found to have the patience, kindliness, cheerfulness, and resource which are essential for the management and progress of the feeble-minded. Everyone is bright, everyone is happy. Those who are not have to go. No one is allowed to say an unkind or sharp word to the children. No corporal punishments are allowed, and no stopping of food. If a child is found incorrigible, his name is posted up on the notice board, and as long as it remains there he has to go to bed when any entertainment begins.

Templeton Colony is an extension of Waverley School, and consists of five farms surrounded by three square miles of wild, stony, uncultivated ground which affords work for all. The boys take great pride in their work. They plough, sow, reap, house the fruit and crops, blast the rocks, make roads, fell trees, tend live stock, do laundry and home work, cooking and cleaning, and all this work is done with very little supervision.

UNCLE SAM AND HIS TRAMPS.

MR. G. MYERS in the *American Review of Reviews* writes on "Colonising the Tramp." The title suggests the use to which an entomologist, wishing to develop specimens on fertile soil, would put the tramp. He really means, putting the tramp into a colony, not putting the colony upon a tramp. The writer says that there are reckoned certainly to be at least half a million tramps in the United States. They were never more numerous than they are at present, and probably would really number about a million. The charitable societies and railroads have agreed in proposing to transplant the tramp colony idea, already in force in Holland and Belgium and Switzerland. The New York legislature is expected to pass an empowering measure shortly, to appropriate three-quarters of a million of dollars to establishing three Tramp Colonies, which are to be places of compulsory detention after conviction before a magistrate. The colonies are to be more agricultural than industrial. Every inmate is to be paid for his labour, and the cumulative amount given to him when he is released. Of the Dutch, Belgian and Swiss colonies, the Swiss are regarded as most nearly approaching the ideal. Though fitted with workshops, both their colonies are essentially agricultural. The surveillants are not armed, or military; they are chosen from among the inmates, and work among them. Deserving inmates get five francs a month clear. The Witzwyl colony yields a yearly profit to the Canton at Berne of about 87,000 francs. The director is a skilled farmer. The Witzwyl also reforms those who are capable of reformation. At the end of their term they are offered the alternative of either working at the free colony at Tannenhof, or in some of the numerous small colonies. Reformed inmates are provided with cottages surrounded with a small plot of land.

RELIGIOUS SCHISM IN THE PHILIPPINES.

España Moderna, published at Madrid, contains a long article by a well-known writer on topics connected with those islands, Sr. W. E. Retana, who shows how the old Catholic faith has been supplanted by what is called the Independent Philippine Church, a religion founded on the Bible, in many respects similar to the Catholic faith, but in others more like Protestantism—a sort of middle course between the two.

"THE INDEPENDENT PHILIPPINE CHURCH."

The writer says that this schism began through the action of some of the Friars and Jesuits, who managed in one way or another to monopolise the ecclesiastical positions, and prevented any of the native clergy from rising above the position of assistant, although there were very many competent men in their ranks. In 1768 Charles III. had all the Jesuits expelled from the Philippines, and this act by a most Catholic monarch showed the natives how a powerful religious order could be swept away in one day. The independence of the United States also made them understand that European domination was not necessarily of lasting duration, and, lastly, the French Revolution persuaded those who could think for themselves that the will of a few at one moment could not only change a secular *régime*, but overcome and radically alter the most fundamental ideas. The revolutionary movement in Spanish America and the constitution of 1812 caused a deep impression in the Philippines, especially amongst the clergy. The subsequent elections resulted in the defeat of the Friars, mainly through the preaching of the native clergy, one of whom was elected Deputy. From this time the antagonism between the monks and the native clergy increased, and eventually became irreconcilable. All through the nineteenth century no native was made a Prelate, and it is said that the monks used all their powerful influence at Rome to prevent a Philippine priest ever being made a bishop.

MONKS *v.* NATIVE CLERGY.

In 1865 the Jesuits returned, and the situation became worse; they brought Royal commands to take charge of the parishes of Mindanas, previously held by monks, to whom were given in exchange those in the province of Cavite, that were in the care of the native clergy, and this last action exhausted the patience of the natives. A campaign was opened in Madrid under the leadership of Dr. Pelaez, a native of Laguna; he however died, and Sr. Jose Burgos, a doctor in theology, philosophy and law, took up the cause. In January, 1872, a military revolt occurred in Cavite, and somehow several of the most intelligent native priests were sent to prison, while others were publicly flogged, thus removing from the scene all those who took an active part in maintaining the rights of the native clergy. The remaining few either had to bow to the monks or be regarded as enemies of Spain. When the revolution of August, 1896, broke out, most of the native clergy sympathised with it, and if many did not take an active part it was because they knew that Spain would ultimately stamp it out.

The Americans becoming owners of the Archipelago by virtue of the Paris treaty in 1898, divided the Philippines into two parties, those reconciled to the new sovereignty, and those in favour of their independence. The clergy saw the change with great pleasure, as in either case they thought they would be able to regain the parishes, benefits and mitres of the Philippines; however, their aspirations were not realised, some suppose because the Vatican did not altogether favour the native clergy, and the result was insubordination followed by division. An Independent Philippine Church thus came into existence.

WHAT MODERNISM TEACHES PROTESTANTS.

DR. NEWMAN SMYTH, in *Scribner*, describes Modernism, not as a reflection of Protestant thought, but as a genuine Neo-Catholicism, which does not, like the Old Catholics, need to leave the Papal Church, but abides within it as a revivifying influence. He says that in Italy some four hundred priests will be ready to confess their reformatory faith when demanded to do so by official vigilance. Dr. Newman Smyth hopes much for Protestantism from the new movement. He says:—

> From such modernism we who are Protestants have much to learn. Its ideas concerning the historical development of the Church, its dogmas and worship; of the worth of these as tested ever anew in the life of the world; its firm and constant grasp upon the great truth which Rome has never lost, that Christianity is a social fact, and not an individual act—these and other ideas of the modernists, if taken up and worked over in our native thinking, may prove to be reconciling principles among our denominational contradictions, bringing a healing virtue to our long-suffered divisions, and restoring to our re-united churches that larger religious efficiency which shall render their ministry once more worthy the devotion of vigorous youth. And not the least of the services which the New Catholicism may render to the rest of the Christian world may be to lead us all to recover the meaning of that great word—Catholic; greatest of all words save one. Modernists, both Roman and Protestant, are learning to speak together that greatest of words—Love.
>
> Because Christianity is true, it is no illusion to dream this dream of all the modernists—Roman, Anglican, Protestant—that, be it soon or late, the one Holy Catholic Church throughout the world shall become visible among men.

EXCEPTING for a brilliant Conservative argument for the abolition of the House of Lords, *Blackwood* for March is not exceptionally interesting. Sir H. Craik picks fun out of the Confederates and "the omnipotent conclave." The Warden of Wadham College writes breezily of the Oxford undergraduate past and present. He speaks very warmly of the progress and reception of the Rhodes Scholars. Mr. O. C. Williams describes the officers of the House of Commons.

MORALITY AND HAPPINESS.

M. FINOT continues his "Science of Happiness" in the mid-February issue of *La Revue* with a chapter on the Morality of Happiness.

HOW SHALL WE LIVE?

We must live and be happy, he writes. The idea which we have of happiness, the sentiments which it inspires, fill our life. It is not sacrifice or abnegation which has created human civilisation. It is the ideal which the best among human beings have made of happiness. But how shall we live? Thousands of moral systems have been invented, but the inventors seem to have forgotten that the desire to live happy follows the principle of life as night follows day.

THE SEARCH FOR HAPPINESS.

Happiness feeds and guides our life. It takes every form, and the renunciation of happiness is but a special form of happiness. It is the sense which we attach to happiness which makes our life base or noble. With rare hypocrisy we found systems of morality on principles of duty, justice, love, fear of heaven and of hell. Behind each of these the real motive of life is to be discovered, namely, the search for happiness.

No one has any right to enjoy benefits which he owes to the activity of others without contributing himself, according to his powers, to the happiness of others. We must educate our ideal of happiness, and if we put sublime things into our ideal, humanity will have sublime aspirations towards happiness.

NO HAPPINESS WITHOUT MORALITY.

Happiness depends above all things on our moral sentiments. Intelligence and happiness follow two parallel lines, which seem analogous though they are not identical. Intelligence acts on happiness in an indirect manner by influencing our morality and our aspirations. But happiness has roots buried in the domain of morals. The man who has not succeeded in implanting them in his conscience will not find them in wealth, or in honours, or in pleasure. Without morality happiness cannot exist.

Since happiness is the end of man and the end of society, it is easy to deduce from it the conduct of life, individual and social. As man is a social being, and as his happiness is impossible outside society, his happiness must accord with the requirements of collective happiness. This accord is based on justice, which in turn creates duty. Individual happiness should be subordinated to justice, which, as vigilant guardian of collective happiness, remains the absolute condition of individual happiness. It is our duty to educate ourselves, to control our own life and make it accord with the principles of our own happiness in order to have as the result the happiness of others. Morality with happiness as its aim is more elevating than morality based on fear.

GILBERT WHITE'S SELBORNE.

THE February issue of the *Art Journal* gives us the second part of an interesting article on Selborne, the home of Gilbert White.

ITS ANTIQUITY.

The writer, Mr. Edward C. Clifford, whose article is accompanied by six of his own drawings, says Selborne is of undoubted antiquity:—

The discovery of Roman and Roman-British coins and pottery in the neighbourhood points to the fact that the Romans knew it. Gilbert White records the finding of large numbers of coins in Wolmer Pond, and tells with some humour of the rush of the people of the neighbourhood to search for them with a view to selling them at high prices. Since his time the largest "find" of coins ever made in his country fell to the lot of Lord Selborne, who discovered between Wolmer Pond and Blackmoor House two earthenware vessels containing some 30,000 pieces of money. One or two attempts at explanation of their presence there have been made, Lord Selborne's own theory being that it was due to a battle that was fought, A.D. 296, in Wolmer Forest between Allectus, who had previously assassinated Carausius and assumed the purple in Britain, and Constantius and his prefect Asclepiodotus.

A SAXON VILLAGE.

Whether Selborne was a Roman settlement or not, there is no doubt of its having been later a Saxon village, for the Domesday Book records that it was a Royal Manor under the Confessor, with Editha his Queen as Lady of the Manor, and that it had a church. Wolmer Forest was a royal hunting ground to which the Plantagenets were partial; King John is supposed to have lived at Werildeham, now called Worldham; Edward II. hunted in the forest; Edward III. had a park at Kingsley; and Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester, and Richard, Duke of York, were wardens in their time.

PICTURESQUENESS OF THE LANES.

Hollow Lane, though the road has been made firm, remains a hollow lane, and in places is overhung with ancient tree stumps and roots, which, hung with fern fronds, project some six feet from the high rocky banks. But, though they may be rough and narrow and deep, the lanes of Selborne are eminently picturesque, running as they do between rugged banks or beautiful hedges, and bordered by trees of growth and variety that make one wonder why the "Natural History" does not contain as many pages devoted to trees as it does to those relating to birds.

WHITE'S GRAVE.

The tablet in the church to the memory of Gilbert White, formerly outside on the north wall, is now on the south wall in the chancel. It states that Gilbert White lies "in the fifth grave from this wall," and is a standing puzzle to strangers. The naturalist was buried in the churchyard in the fifth grave from the north wall, where the simple headstone is marked "G. W., June 26th, 1793." This, says Mr. Clifford, was doubtless in accordance with White's expressed wishes, for in his book he utters protests against the unhealthy practice of burying within churches, and against the fashion for burials on the south side, thereby causing congestion on that side, while there remained plenty of space unoccupied to the north.

THE London Hospital, it may be news to many, is declared in the *Sunday at Home* by N. Keith Bushell to be the largest hospital in Europe. A sketch is given of what goes on between dusk and dawn.

GOETHE AS PSYCHIC

REINCARNATIONIST CLAIRVOYANT, ETC.

WHEN the German editors gave me the magnificent miniature reproduction of Schäfer's "Goethe" to be an ornament and an inspiration for my house, I did not realise that Goethe was a great psychic.

In the *Occult Review* for March, Mr. A. S. Furnell says :—

We have heard much of Goethe as a classic realist, as a pantheist; Goethe as an occultist has too often been overlooked. His recorded conversations and many passages in his works bear witness to this side of his many-sided personality. He not only believed in, but himself possessed in some degree the finer psychic forces, the requisite physical basis for which he inherited from his grandfather, a dreamer of prophetic dreams.

Mr. Furnell supports his assertion chiefly by means of quotations from Goethe's conversations with Eckermann. He proves that Goethe was clairvoyant, that he saw an earthquake at Messina announced in the sky, that he once met his own double, and that he saw and fired at the ghost of a French soldier on the battlefield of Jena.

AN AUTOMATIC WRITER.

Goethe appears to have obtained many of his poems as I received the letters of Julia. Mr. Furnell says :—

As another occult experience we may mention the manner, resembling automatic writing, in which many of his poems were put down. "I had," he said, "no idea beforehand, but they came over me suddenly and had to be done at once, so that I felt myself driven to write them on the spot in an instinctive and dreamy way. In this somnambulistic condition it often happened that I had a piece of paper quite crooked before me and first remarked this when everything was written, or when there was no room for further writing." To Frau von Stein he writes: "The difference between an hour in which things become so vivid to me and the moment at which I now write is the difference between dream and waking," and in 1814 he writes to Von Knebel about the new edition of "Wilhelm Meister": "I wrote this little work, like my other things, as a somnambulist."

In his natural sleep, too, Goethe seems to have enjoyed moments of illumination and psychic refreshment. "There were often times in my life," he said to Eckermann, "when I wept myself to sleep, but in my dreams came beautiful forms to comfort and cheer me, and I rose next morning fresh and joyful." Other passages from his works show his belief in the existence of the aura, and in telepathy.

A VISION OF HIS FRIEND'S DOUBLE.

On one occasion Goethe met the Double of a beloved friend on the high road. He was accompanied by two friends who did not see the Double. They heard Goethe's exclamation of surprise as he noted that his friend was wearing a dressing-gown and slippers on the high road, and they saw his amazement when the Double vanished. "Alas!" said Goethe, "I fear my friend is dead." But when he reached home to his surprise and delight he found his friend alive and well, arrayed in the same dressing-gown and slippers which had excited his surprise when he met him on the high road. His friend explained that he had arrived drenched to the skin :—

I got your clothes as my luggage had not arrived, sat down on the sofa and impatiently imagined your surprise when you would return. Your delay seemed endless to my longing heart and, as I know the way to Belvedere, I followed your walk in my thoughts; and I must have fallen asleep, for I dreamt very vividly that I went to meet you at the same spot where you had the vision of me. As I was hastening towards you, you called out: "In my dressing-gown and slippers on the high-road!" I looked at myself, was ashamed, and got such a fright at my odd appearance that I awoke!

Goethe and I exchanged looks. He had heard the words which Goethe had called out."

HIS BELIEF IN REINCARNATION.

Goethe was a firm believer in Reincarnation. He said on one occasion :—

"I am as sure as of my presence here now, that I have been here a thousand times before, and I hope to return a thousand times more" (to Falk). And again to Falk in 1813 of further evolution :—"Man is the first utterance of Nature to God. On other planets this utterance will become higher, deeper, and more distinct." Moreover Goethe seems inclined to attribute his love of Roman things to a former life of his under Hadrian, and supposes that his friend Boisserée was incarnated in the fifteenth century somewhere on the lower Rhine.

A WEIRD EXPERIENCE.

He had the profound respect of a true scientist for all phenomena, nor did he think that it was supremely scientific to resort to the most incredible hypotheses rather than to admit it may be explained by laws beyond our knowledge. Of these Mr. Furnell quotes as an illustration Goethe's record of a curious occurrence suggesting sympathy between inanimate objects. On one occasion, he says, some friends were sitting together when—

a great crack was suddenly heard. On examining the furniture they found that the arched top of a desk was split in two. As the object was a splendid specimen of the cabinet-maker's art, they could not imagine why it should break apparently without cause. They soon found that a neighbouring house was on fire, and as an exactly similar desk, made from the same piece of wood by the same man, perished in the flames, they concluded that theirs had cracked by some mysterious sympathy. Such conclusions may be laughed at, Goethe says, "but a single action or phenomenon is interesting, not because it can be explained or is probable, but because it is true."

Throughout his works and in his conversations Goethe treats occult phenomena with similar respect. Speaking of the Seeress of Prevorst, he declared that not only did such powers as clairvoyance, etc., exist in the nature of man, but that they necessarily exist in it.

Goethe, it is evident, deserves to be installed as the patron saint of a Psychical Research Society that was worthy of its name. They would have no use for him at the S.P.R.

THERE is a long and appreciative sketch of Dorothea Beale, of Cheltenham, in *East and West* for February.

AN interesting idea is worked out in the *Lady's Realm* by Cecil King—a sort of biographical sketch of each of the ships in succession that have worn the title of *Dreadnought*, from the first, captained by Sir Francis Drake, which "singed the King of Spain's beard," and captured the great *San Felipe* galleon, with her 600,000 ducats, a capture which resulted three years later in the foundation of the East India Company.

TOWARDS THE UNITED STATES OF EUROPE.

SIR MAX WAECHTER'S CONFERENCE IN ROME.

SINCE I published "The United States of Europe" on the eve of the first Conference at the Hague, the cause of European federation has secured no such whole-hearted advocate as Sir Max Waechter. In the March *Contemporary Review* Sir Max cheerfully discourses to an interviewer concerning his ideal and how he hopes to realise it.

THE CONFERENCE ON FEDERATION.

It seems that an international Conference will meet in Rome from March 31st to April 5th, to devise a plan of campaign. It is not a Conference of Governments but of eminent men from all parts of Europe:—

Its object is to discuss the scheme and form an International Committee of representative men, whose duty it will be to organise Federation Leagues, in order to enlighten the people of the various countries. Our object is to put the situation clearly before the peoples. If once they realise that Federation is really the only remedy for the prevailing state of affairs, which puts an intolerable strain on both nations and individuals, there can be no reasonable doubt that they will embrace it with enthusiasm.

THE SUPPORT OF THE KAISER AND OTHERS.

Sir Max Waechter says that the Kaiser and all the other sovereigns are most sympathetic and encouraging:—

"I first went to Kiel. I left with the assurance that no active opposition to the proposed Federation of Europe would come from the Kaiser, and that he would not seek to claim any privileged position in such a Confederacy for Germany, or for himself, as has been falsely insinuated by a French journal. I have already visited the chief countries of Europe, seen their leading Ministers, and in most cases also had an opportunity of submitting my views to their respective Sovereigns—some of whom even went the length of promising me their actual support. I went first to Belgium, then to Poland, Russia, Austria, Hungary, Italy, Germany, Sweden, Denmark, Norway, and France. In all these countries I received the greatest encouragement, and I have thus come to the conclusion that my scheme has a fair chance of being accepted by the whole of Europe. I was introduced to the German Emperor at Kiel last summer—it was during the regatta week, and he honoured us by coming to take tea on our yacht. He also invited me to a banquet on the *Hohenzollern*, and was altogether most gracious."

PROGRAMME.

Sir Max Waechter says:—

It must be our first task to create public opinion over the whole extent of Europe, to open the eyes of the peoples, and to show them which are their real interests. For this purpose the Conference will be held at Rome. If none of the six Great Powers puts any "veto" on the thing, its first success will have been achieved and will probably lead to one or more of the Great Powers inviting the others to a Conference in order to bring out, by friendly discussion, on what basis and under what conditions, such a Federation would be acceptable to them all. When these Great Powers have formulated their agreement, they will probably invite all the other European Powers to an enlarged conference, and submit a scheme for their approval. Such at least is our hope.

ONE PARLIAMENT AND ONE LANGUAGE.

I am sorry to see that Sir Max Waechter does not think that Esperanto will be adopted as a universal language and taught in all the schools. He thinks that the choice will fall on French, English, or Spanish! Which shows that Sir Max Waechter has not given five minutes' thought to the subject of a *lingua franca*, which he thinks is a detail not worth considering. He says: "The European Parliament would at first be bound to be something of a Babel, but it would soon enact the teaching of a universal language in all European schools."

THE TWO PRINCIPLES OF FEDERATION.

Sir Max Waechter reduces to two the general principles on which the Federal Constitution is to be framed:—

1. That the Foreign Office always, and the Military and Naval Command in time of war, should be in one hand—most likely a Permanent Conference of the Great Powers.

2. That there should be one tariff and Free Trade throughout Europe, or conditions as near as possible to Free Trade, in case insuperable difficulties should make absolute Free Trade impossible.

WHAT FEDERATION WOULD SECURE.

The advantages of Federation, says Sir Max, are:—

1. A European war would become practically impossible; if once the different States discarded their respective tariffs, and free intercourse took place, they would practically form one community.

2. Europe ought to save annually about £200,000,000 sterling on armaments. Add to this the productive power of, say, three to three and a half million men, which would more than double the above amount.

3. These enormous savings spread over the countries would bring about a higher standard of living and would inaugurate an unprecedented state of prosperity.

4. Employment of labour would be very largely increased, and we should probably find work for everybody who could work.

5. Discontent would disappear or greatly diminish with the general prosperity, and subversive ideas would gradually vanish.

6. Race prejudice would cease, and the different races would as easily co-operate in Europe as they have done in America.

7. Economically, Europe should gradually reach the same level as America, and compete with her in foreign countries on equal terms.

8. The power and influence of Europe would be supreme in the world, and could for many centuries to come withstand any possible foreign attack either upon her economic supremacy or by force of arms.

I shall look forward to the Conference at Rome with immense interest.

The Navy Question.

MR. ARCHIBALD S. HURD, writing in the *Fortnightly Review* upon "The Navy's Need of Men," says that England is the only country which in the past four years has decreased the number of the regular *personnel*. Germany has increased the men on board her main warships by 12,526, the United States by 10,867, and France by 3,538, whereas we have decreased ours by 2,490. In six years the Germans will have added 10,000 more to the number of their seamen. Twenty thousand of our men are stationed either in the Mediterranean or still further away. They are, therefore, unavailable in time of sudden war. Germany has only 3,000 men on foreign service.

THE NEW BOOK OF GENESIS.

DARWIN ACCORDING TO WALLACE.

WHEN Darwin died Fitzjames Stephen wrote an unpublished article, being provoked thereto by a sermon of Canon Liddon's, in which he in his own downthump fashion maintained that any one who said he believed in Darwin could only be regarded as a fool if he said he was a Theist, or a knave if he pretended to be a Christian. Darwin, it was then held by many, had killed the faith of men in an all-ruling Creator. That Darwin had really placed that faith on a far wider and firmer foundation than those sketched out by Moses, was then only apparent to a few. That Darwinism made the miracle of Creation infinitely more miraculous, that the new Genesis differed from the old as a modern engineering works differs from a doll-maker's workshop, that his books tended to revive the faith of man in the immanence of a living God is now generally recognised. But it has never been more splendidly set forth, with such cheerful confidence, as it was preached by Alfred Russell Wallace on his last visit to London, when he addressed the members of the Royal Institution upon "The World of Life." His address is published in the *Fortnightly*. The concluding pages might be read with advantage from every pulpit in the land.

THE LAW OF ORGANIC EVOLUTION.

After insisting upon the enormous scale upon which Nature works—and, as Ibsen says, whatever may be true about Nature she is not economical—he sets forth a mass of most interesting facts :—

With regard to the universality of variation, enormous powers of multiplication, and incessant weeding out of the unfit which afford a complete explanation of the phenomena of colour, in all their variety and beauty, while no other adequate explanation has ever been set forth, or even attempted.

Where *we* observe or experiment with tens or hundreds of individuals, Nature carries on her work with millions and thousands of millions ; that, whereas our observations are only intermittent and for short periods, Nature acts perpetually and has so acted throughout all past geological time ; and, lastly, that while we are concerned with one or two species at a time, and to a large extent ignorantly and blindly, she acts simultaneously on all living things—plants as well as animals, that occupy the same area—and always in such a way as to preserve every advantageous variation, however slight, in all those which are destined to continue the race and to become, step by step, modified into new species in strict adaptation to the new conditions which are slowly being evolved.

The exact adaptation of every species has been brought into existence through the unknown but supremely marvellous powers of *Life* in strict relation to the great law of *Usefulness*, which constitutes the fundamental principle of *Darwinism*.

"SOME DEEPER POWER AND CAUSE."

Having said all this, Dr. Wallace, "to avoid misconception," makes the following significant avowal :—

Neither Darwinism nor any other theory in science or philosophy can give more than a secondary explanation of phenomena. Some deeper power or cause always has to be postulated. I have here claimed that the known facts, when fully examined and reasoned out, are adequate to explain the method of Organic Evolution ; yet the underlying fundamental *causes* are, and will probably ever remain, not only unknown, but even inconceivable by us. The mysterious power we term life, which alone renders possible the production from a few of the chemical elements of such infinite diverse fabrics, will surely never be explained—as many suppose it will be—in terms of mere matter and motion.

A MIRACLE OF MIRACLES.

But beyond even these marvels is the yet greater marvel of that ever-present organising and guiding power, which—to take a single example—builds up anew that most wonderful congeries of organs, the bird's covering of feathers.

CREATOR AND SUSTAINER AND RULER OF ALL.

Every attempt to explain these phenomena—even Darwin's highly complex and difficult theory of Pangenesis—utterly breaks down ; so that now, even the extreme monists, such as Haeckel, are driven to the supposition that every ultimate cell is a conscious, intelligent individual, that knows where to go and what to do, goes there and does it !

These unavailing efforts to explain the inexplicable, whether in the details of any one living thing, or in the origin of life itself, seem to me to lead us to the irresistible conclusion that beyond and above all terrestrial agencies there is some great source of *energy* and *guidance*, which in unknown ways pervades every form of organised life, and of which we ourselves are the ultimate and fore-ordained outcome.

"Can man by searching find out God?" Nay, verily. But Wallace points an unerring finger to the existence of that Source of Energy and Guidance which bears His Name.

IRELAND AND SCOTLAND.

A PARALLEL AND A CONTRAST.

IN the *Westminster Review* for March a writer summarises the series of leaflets recently issued by the Imperial Home Rule Association, pointing out the contrast between Ireland and Scotland. I throw the figures and facts into parallel columns :—

Scotland.	VITAL STATISTICS.	*Ireland.*
In fifty years the population has increased 2 millions.		In fifty years the population has decreased 2 millions.
Yet every 10 Scotch marriages only produce 39 children.		10 Irish marriages produced 46 children.
Marriage rate 13·4 per 1,000		Marriage rate 10·4 per 1,000
Birth rate ... 28·1 ,, ,,		Birth rate ... 23·4 ,, ,,
Death rate ... 15·9 ,, ,,		Death rate ... 17·1 ,, ,,
Natural increase 12·2 ,, ,,		Natural increase 6·3 ,, ,,
	CRIMINAL STATISTICS.	
Committed for trial ... 2,318		Committed for trial ... 1,778
Convictions 2,072		Convictions 1,303
Police (number of) ... 5,435		Police (number of) ... 11,144
,, (proportion to convicts) ... 2½		,, (proportion to convicts) ... 8½
Cost of Prisons ... £288,650		Cost of Prisons ... £114,550
Cost per convict per annum £42		Cost per convict per annum £88
	EMIGRATION STATISTICS.	
Total emigrants per ann. 66,341		Total emigrants ... 64,111
To United States ... 24,366		To United States ... 54,314
To British Empire ... 39,375		To British Empire ... 9,068
Other places ... 2,000		Other places ... 729
	TAXATION.	
Total Revenue ... £12,368,000		Total Revenue ... £8,004,000
Excise and Customs 7,402,000		Excise and Customs 6,042,000
Estate Duties ... 1,285,000		Estate Duties ... 360,000
Income Tax ... 3,106,000		Income Tax ... 1,103,000
Post and Telegraph 2,098,000		Post and Telegraph 1,060,000

WHAT ROOSEVELT HAS DONE.

MR. JUDSON C. WELLIVER, writing in the *American Review of Reviews* on the work of the retiring President, distinguishes the two periods—one, in which Mr. Roosevelt loyally carried out the policy of the McKinley Presidency; and the second, in which he was himself, by a three times greater majority than had ever been given before, elected President. Mr. Roosevelt's achievements are thus shortly put:—Reawakening the public conscience; the peace between Japan and Russia; the movement for conservation of natural resources; curbing the corporations; the acquisition of the Panama Canal; the placing of the United States in the first rank of the Great Powers, announced by sending the fleet round the world; the despatch of Secretary Root to the Pan-American Congress at Rio de Janeiro, and so bringing the Latin-American countries to understand their confidence in the good intentions of the United States; the settlement of the anthracite strike; the prevention of a European war over rival pretensions of France and Germany in Morocco—when these two Powers were straining at the leash, Mr. Roosevelt initiated the movement which made the Algeciras Conference possible; the lead in the open door and territorial entity of China; adjustment of differences between the United States and Japan; the International Opium Conference at Shanghai; the amicable prevention of war between Argentina and Chile; the settlement of all questions open between the United States and Canada; improvement of relations between the United States and Germany; Cuba occupied, pacified, saved; the Philippines ditto; Army reform, expansion of Navy—when the Congress allowed him only two new battleships instead of four, he is making the two of unprecedented size and fitment, 26,000 tons, 14-inch guns; the new Department of Commerce and Labour; advance of the Department of Agriculture; improved conditions of labour. As a consequence of most of these reforms, it has come to cost over a billion a year to run the Government. This is an American billion, which, of course, is only a thousand millions of dollars. Even the United States would shrink from the prospect of an English billion of dollars as annual expenditure.

WHAT ROOSEVELT IS GOING TO DO.

MR. E. B. CLARK in the *American Review of Reviews* explains the facts about Mr. Roosevelt's projected tour into Africa. He says that it is properly called the Smithsonian African Expedition. It was conceived by Mr. Roosevelt, and he will be leader. The end to be sought is science, not sport. There will be no butchery of game. Mr. Roosevelt has already added more than any other man to our knowledge of the big game mammals of the United States. His training will be of great scientific value in Africa. The aim is to secure an adult specimen of both sexes of the big game animals; specimens of the smaller mammals and the birds will be secured if possible. There will be no other killing, except such as is necessary to supply the camp with meat. The expedition is constituted thus:—

The American companions of Mr. Roosevelt will be Doctor and Colonel Edgar A. Mearns, U.S. Army (retired); Edmund Heller, of California, a trained naturalist; J. Alden Loring, an experienced collector of small mammals and birds, and Kermit Roosevelt, who will act as the official photographer of the expedition. On the other side of the water R. J. Cunninghame, an Englishman, who has guided numerous hunting parties in Africa and who also is an experienced collector of natural history specimens, will join the party as guide and caravan chief.

The party is expected to arrive at Mombasa on May 1st, and will proceed through British and German East Africa, *viâ* Uganda, down the Nile, reaching the Atlantic about March 1st, 1910. While he goes as a scientist, Mr. Roosevelt will not forget that he is a Christian. Mr. F. C. Inglehart, in the same magazine, sketches Bishop Hartzell, Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church for Africa, and his work there. He says that:—

President Roosevelt, the best expression of a Christian American manhood, with his keen wisdom, wide knowledge, and deep conviction, said in his Diamond Jubilee address, that the religion of Jesus is a necessary instrument in the redemption of Africa, and it is a matter of congratulation that while on his trip of well-earned recreation and scientific investigation he will visit missions in the countries through which he shall pass, which will be as great an encouragement to the workers in the foreign field as it will be an inspiration to those at home, who sustain them.

MR. TAFT

AN ENGLISH LADY'S IMPRESSION.

MRS. CAMPBELL DAUNCEY in *Cornhill* gives the following vivid portraiture of Mr. Taft as she saw him at a reception in Iloilo, Philippine Islands, in 1905:—

Towering above the heads of all, Mr. Taft, a huge, fair-haired, fair-complexioned giant, quite six foot four in height, and, I was told by an American, "three hundred and fifty pounds in weight," which is, being translated, twenty-five stone, and certainly he looked every ounce of it. He had a large, clever face, that creased up into an amiable smile, for which I believe he was and is famous, a natural asset which has helped him enormously in a career filled with difficult situations. In curious contrast to the genial manner and the engaging smile were his eyes, small, light-coloured, rather closely placed together, and very shrewd in expression. He had a quick, cold, sharp way of looking at things and people, which seemed to me quite the opposite of what one would have expected from anyone so stout and with such a pleasant smile. When he was serious, it was, indeed, a strong, rather harsh face, and not, I must confess, very prepossessing, but when he smiled the "Taft smile" it altered from cold sternness to the utmost *bonhomie*, and he really looked charming.

The *Century* gives a description of the personality of the new President, and contrasts the hearty laugh of the man with the stern duty of the official. Mr. J. A. Le Roy treats of his traits and methods as revealed by his work in the Philippines.

THE SULTAN—UNREFORMED.

AN ex-attaché of the Turkish Foreign Office and son of a formerly high functionary under the Sultan, N. C. Adossides, contributes recently to the *American* impressions of Abdul-Hamid: "His face is wrinkled parchment." The voice belies the face. "It is marvellously subtle and insinuating, melodious in its modulations, and full of dulcet tones." With it he is able to seduce even his antagonists. As illustrations of the depth of intrigue prevailing at the Yildiz Kiosk, the writer mentions that the Imperial body-guard is composed of the three Mohammedan races—Albanians, Kurds, and Arabs—who abhor each other with a ferocious hatred, and therefore may be trusted never to conspire against their common master. When officials quarrel, the Sultan rewards them, and secures each as a watch against the other. So well is this known that occasionally courtiers pretend to quarrel furiously, so as to get a larger share of the Imperial bounty. The Sultan shot the favourite of his harem because she was toying with a jewelled pistol. On his estates he has forbidden the words "country," "nation," "people," "liberty," "revolution." His censorship suppresses news of assassination, and announces that President Carnot, President McKinley, the Empress of Austria, King Humbert, and the Shah of Persia all died of an "affection of the heart"! When disaffected subjects flee to foreign parts, there to say all manner of evil against him, the astute old fox lures them back with offers of office and high salary—not to destroy them, but to keep his word and keep them—dumb, muzzled, watched!

THE PROPOSED REFORMS IN INDIA.

MR. J. D. REES, writing in the *Fortnightly Review* upon the Proposed Reforms in India, complains that Lord Morley is stimulating the political agitation of contented peoples. Of all his proposals Mr. Rees most objects to the appointment of a native of India as a member of the Executive Council of the Viceroy and Governor-General. Executiveships and Governor-Generalships, in his opinion, should never be held by natives of India. On the whole, however, Mr. Rees is more favourably disposed towards Lord Morley's proposals than might have been expected.

MR. GOKHALE'S OPINION.

Writing in the *Contemporary Review* for March, Mr. Gokhale says:—

Lord Morley's scheme thus taken as a whole is a substantial instalment of reform, and as such it has given deep and sincere satisfaction throughout India. There are no doubt differences of opinion as regards details. The effect that the publication of the scheme has already produced upon the situation is, to my mind, the best tribute to its statesmanship. The task of pacifying the country has been rendered sensibly easier since the announcement of the reforms. Of course, much yet depends upon how effect is given to the scheme; and even when it is fully carried out it will have to be supplemented by other measures before the task of pacification is completed.

One word of warning here may be uttered. It will be absolutely disastrous if any attempt is made to go back on the scheme in any important particular. If the people are now subjected to any disappointment in connection with it there will be a violent reaction, which will be in every way deplorable. Lord Morley and Lord Minto have both really deserved well of India.

WHAT WE MAY LEARN FROM THE SWISS.

MISS EDITH SELLERS ON POOR RELIEF.

MISS EDITH SELLERS, the best informed and the most intelligent writer in the English press as to Continental systems of Poor Relief, concludes her sketch of the Swiss system in the *Contemporary Review* for March. She says:—

In most cantons good value is certainly obtained for the money spent on the poor, especially on the poor in institutions. We English have much to learn from the Swiss in this matter. By dint of skilful organisation, and management based on infinite taking of pains, money is made to go more than twice as far in some institutions as in any institution I know in England. We have much to learn from them, too, in the matter of giving a helping hand to the respectable poor who, through misfortune, are drifting into pauperism; and also in that of forcing the lazy, drunken wastrel to do his duty to his family.

A MODEL PENAL COLONY.

Berne, she says—

has the very best penal workhouse, or rather penal labour colony, that I have ever met with in any country. The men who are sent there do not cost the community one penny; on the contrary, they actually make money for the community; for whereas the value of their labour is on an average a good half-crown a day per head, the expenditure they entail is only 1s. 2½d. And every man sent is given the chance of turning over a new leaf and making a fresh start in life. If he behaves well while he is there and is industrious, he is well fed and well clothed.

HOW TO HELP MEN SEEKING WORK.

The problem of finding work for the willing worker is undertaken by the *Natural-Verpflegungs Verband*, one of the most useful societies in Switzerland. Miss Sellers says:—

These societies were founded for the purpose of helping the unemployed who are both employable and eager to be employed; and the way they help them is by providing them with food and lodging while in search of work, and keeping them informed as to where hands are needed. Each society organises in its own canton relief-in-kind stations, with labour bureaux attached. There a respectable man when on tramp may obtain a dinner, or a supper, bed and breakfast gratis, if he has not been there during the previous six months. He may even, if it be deemed advisable, remain there for three days for a rest and "clean up." These stations are plain enough places; but the beds are clean, and the food is wholesome and well-cooked. The door is barred inexorably against loafers, drunkards, and the whole disreputable tribe. No man is admitted unless he can produce a *Verband* book; and although a respectable work-seeker can easily obtain a book, one is never given to a work shirker. A man who has a book can travel practically from one end of the land to the other, and have three meals and a bed gratis every day, together with full information as to the state of the labour market, providing he can prove that he has been in regular work within the previous three months, and out of work for at least five days. In the places where there are no stations, the police provide food and lodging for the book-holders.

FRIEDRICH PAULSEN is the subject of an appreciation in German, with portrait, by Rudolf Lehmann, in the American *Educational Review*. The writer declares that Paulsen's name will remain for ever unforgotten in the history of German education more than in that of philosophy.

GUNS TO FIGHT AIRSHIPS.

MR. ALFRED AVIS describes in the *World's Work* the new Krupp guns for fighting airships. Some such weapon was certain to follow in the steps of aerial invention. The gun can be brought to bear in any direction as desired with but little effort. The maximum elevation of the barrel is 60 degrees. It is thus expected to be able to follow the rapid evolutions of a balloon or airship. The gun is rated 6·5 centimètres, and throws a shell of 8·8 lbs. with initial velocity of over 2,000 feet a minute. To follow the high speed of the airship, the only vehicle that can be used in field operations is the motor car. The Krupp Company have devised a special weapon for mounting on a motor-car platform. The first balloon gun of this type was 7·5 centimètres, throwing a shell of 14·3 lbs. at an initial velocity of about 2,170 feet per second, and capable of training up to a maximum angle of 75 degrees. They have developed later a projectile weighing about 39·6 lbs. They have also designed a new type of shell. The ordinary projectile would go right through the gasbag, puncturing, but otherwise not injuring. Messrs. Krupp have perfected a burning shell which, should it strike the gasbag, would not only pierce it, but the escaping stream of gas would be fired and the whole machine wrecked by explosion. This burning shell is equally effective when directed against aeroplanes. These new guns were subjected to experiment. Two small spherical balloons were sent aloft to a height of about a thousand feet, while the gun was posted some 5,330 feet away. A strong wind was blowing, swirling the balloons considerably in all directions. Despite all these disadvantages, the one balloon was struck with the second, and the other one with the fifth round.

THE CHARGES OF HIGH TREASON AT AGRAM.

WRITING in the first February number of the *Revue de Paris*, Victor Bérard draws attention to the charges of high treason against fifty-three conspirators, which are at last to be tried at Agram.

Of the fifty-three "criminals," twelve are unmarried and forty-one are fathers of three to seven children. Sixteen are small tradesmen, twelve are teachers, seven officials, six priests, two doctors, one advocate, and nine owners of property. And their crime? They are accused of being associated, directly or indirectly, with the political association "Slovenski Youg," of Belgrade, the aim of which, under the pretext of a political, social, and national union, is to propagate and introduce into Croatia, Slavonia, and Dalmatia, as well as the Bosnian Provinces, the idea of a great Serb State, and then by a general revolution in these countries, and with the aid of Servian and Montenegrin arms, to snatch these States from the Austro-Hungarian monarchy and incorporate them in the Kingdom of Servia, in order to found a Servian State under the sceptre of King Peter.

The evidence of 276 persons—plus George Nastitch—is to be taken, but the chief proofs of conspiracy are a few pamphlets, pictures, flags, glasses and bottles, and caps and hats, etc., in which are worn the Servian emblems! Not a weapon or a bomb, only the pamphlets or confessions of George Nastitch. This Nastitch, however, was not arrested or brought to judgment, but relatives and electors of deputies of the "Serb Party" have been imprisoned for five months, notwithstanding that the law of Croatia limits the time of detention to three months. Nastitch was also the principal witness at Cetigne, when the Government and the Court of Prince Nicholas accused King Peter of sending bombs to his father-in-law. Nevertheless, twenty innocent persons were condemned.

ARE BRAZILIANS TOO LOW?

"YES," SAYS LORD ELCHO.

LORD ELCHO contributes a remarkable article in the *Financial Review of Reviews*, the object of which is to prove that it is much better to invest in Brazilians than in Argentines. I never notice purely financial articles, but Lord Elcho's paper is of political importance. He says that within the last twenty-five years somewhere about £400,000,000 of English capital has been invested in South America. He publishes lists of the South American stocks quoted on the Stock Exchange, and remarks that—

> From these lists it will be seen that, whereas in Argentina little more than 4½ per cent. is obtainable from a good security, and in many cases only 3¾ per cent., in Brazil it is possible to obtain 5 per cent., and even 5½ per cent. On the face of it, this might be taken as an indication that Brazil is a less safe field of investment than the Argentine. But do facts bear out the conclusion?

Lord Elcho is strongly of opinion that they do not. In the first place, Argentine prosperity depends absolutely upon the weather; whereas Brazil's is much too broadly based to be affected by a drought or a frost. In the second place:—

> The indebtedness of Brazil is £4 8s. 1d. per head of the population. This compares with £11 13s. 11d. for Argentina, and £22 for Chile, and it must be remembered that, comparatively small as is the debt, it has all been incurred by expenditure on domestic and reproductive works.

In the third place, Lord Elcho publishes a table of the expenditure of South and Central American States, and points out that—

> Argentina seems to have played the chief part in this carnival of repudiation, while Chile and Brazil are the only two Republics in South America which have not taken any part in the chorus of defaulters. There is, indeed, no single instance of any State or Town of Brazil having failed to meet the interest on its foreign debt.

Lord Elcho comforts himself with the conclusion that the British investor is opening his eyes at last to the value of "Brazils."

> The experience of recent months suggests that the British investor is arriving at a better understanding regarding the future of Brazil, for the San Paulo loan of £10,000,000 was oversubscribed within a few days, and so great was the demand last month for the new bonds of the City of Rio de Janeiro that the whole issue was over-subscribed within twenty minutes and the lists closed.

WHY NOT BRITISH FAMILY COUNCILS?

A DESIRABLE IMPORT FROM EUROPE.

THAT admirable writer who prefers the *nom de plume* "Ignotus," contributes to this month's *Westminster Review* in a paper on "The Demoralisation of the Law," a strong plea for introducing Family Councils into Great Britain. It worked well in ancient Rome, but—

"in our miscellaneous borrowings from Rome, which include half our language and more than half our law, we have been so ill-served by our legal authorities that one of the best provisions of Roman law finds no place in our judicial system. But surely the end of all things is not at hand; why not adopt the Family Council now? Nearly every country in Europe has adopted the Family Council except the one which stands most in need of it."

It is said to work admirably in France:—

Convoking a *Conseil de famille* is a serious matter; that is done by the *juge de paix* of the district, and he presides over it. The Council is composed of six members, exclusive of the *juge de paix*, namely, three next-of-kin on the paternal, and three on the maternal side. In default of these, their places may be filled by friends. The sittings are private, and no publicity is given to the matters under debate. The legal expenses attendant upon this domestic conclave are restricted to a minimum. Minutes are registered by the *juge de paix* at a cost of from ten to fifteen francs. Certain important transactions require a fee of fifty francs; some require a formality called *homologation*, to render them valid and binding; others do not. The affairs of minors and orphans are chiefly the subject of inquiry and decision by *Conseils de famille*, but there is another important class which comes under their wardship consisting of the incorrigible and the spendthrift.

This is Miss Betham Edwards' summary of the subject, and there is no better authority. "The *Conseil de famille* is a domestic Court of Justice accessible alike to rich and poor at nominal cost, occupying itself with questions the most momentous as well as the most minute; outside the law, but by the law rendered authoritative and binding. One object, and one only, is kept in view, namely, the protection of the weak. Not a loophole is left for underhand dealing, peculation, or chicane."

"Ignotus" therefore pleads for the "immediate embodiment of the Family Council in our judicial system. The method and result of its working are before us. It is no leap in the dark; no mere experiment."

TEACHING CHILDREN TO READ BOOKS.

THE editor of the *Sunday Strand* tells the story of the Cardiff public libraries. It is an interesting account of what public spirit and efficient service can accomplish. One of the features of the municipal library is the Welsh department, which contains one of the most complete collection of books and pamphlets relating to Wales in existence. In numbers it exceeds 45,000. From the Welsh library, in 1906–7, some 13,636 volumes were borrowed for consultation. The proportion of fiction to more serious works is, in Manchester, 5 to 1 in favour of fiction; in Cardiff, a little more than 3 to 1 at the worst, and at the best only a little more than an advantage in favour of fiction. The Libraries Committee and Education Committee work together in a praiseworthy manner to encourage the love of reading in the children. Says Mr. Ballinger, the librarian:—

In connection with each elementary school we have children's libraries consisting of 200 to 600 volumes, altogether amounting to 25,000 volumes. During the last year over 250,000 volumes were issued to the scholars, and the average number of books borrowed by children using the library was fourteen per year. Do you realise what that means? It means that every child in the Cardiff schools, from the moment it begins to read, is not only permitted to use the books, but encouraged in every way to acquire the taste for reading.

The Education Committee supply the necessary bookcases, books, and any other apparatus required, and the teachers collect and distribute the books, arranging also for lectures and illustrated lessons. In the Canton District Library, given by Mr. Carnegie, there is a light, cheerful, attractive reading hall for children. They have as many as 200 there in four hours. The librarian proceeded:—

We secured a cultured lady, whose duties were fairly light and whose salary was sufficient to prove an attraction. Seventy-five pounds a year we pay, and on four mornings a week she visits the schools, overlooks the library, receives any requests from the teachers for new books, and arranges for illustrated lessons or lectures. Altogether she gives thirty-three hours per week, so the pay is not bad.

A SOCIAL BASIS FOR IMPERIAL FEDERATION.

A MOST interesting paper, and one charged with much political potency, is contributed by L. V. Biggs, of Melbourne, to the *Empire Review*. Whatever may be thought of his particular proposals, the general idea—of intensive Imperialism—is likely to be much heard of in the days to come. He is of opinion that none of the official and orthodox plans for the promotion of the permanent unity of the Empire are likely to win the enthusiastic support of those suffering from the present social system. He therefore asks:—

Is it too Utopian a dream to forecast that the day must come when the goal of Imperial Federation will be brought years nearer by means of the inclusion in the agenda paper of one of these Imperial Conferences of a programme of social reform, which shall at least include the following:—

An Imperial old-age pensions system, applying throughout the Empire;

An Imperial Factories Act, providing a minimum standard of industrial regulation, applying to all factories throughout the self-governing Dominions;

An Imperial Immigration Restriction Act, controlling the movements of the coloured races within the Empire, and also regulating the movements of paupers;

An Inter-Imperial Labour Exchange, maintained at the expense of all the self-governing Dominions, and acting as a Labour Clearing House for the Empire and a Central Information Bureau; and

Regular conferences of the Ministers controlling labour and industrial legislation of every State, Colony, or Dominion in the Empire for the exchange of views and the discussion of a common code.

Such a programme would, it is true, make the Empire and not the State, Colony, or Dominion the unit of social reform. It would place the Empire *in loco parentis*, and would so stimulate the sense of social and industrial unity amongst the British peoples that they would leaven the legislation of the entire world.

THE CAREER OF SIR ALMA-TADEMA.

THE great marble painter recounts his reminiscences in the *Strand*. His father died when he was four years old, and his mother was left at Leeuwarden with a family of small children to bring up. His guardians resolved he should be a lawyer, though he longed for art. To find time for his cherished pursuit he persuaded his mother to wake him at five o'clock every morning by tugging a string tied to his big toe. When fourteen he completed a portrait of his sister, which was hung at an exhibition at Leeuwarden. At sixteen he painted a portrait of himself. Then his health gave way. The doctors said his days were numbered. The guardians, to indulge a dying boy, let him have his way with art, and then he regained his health.

The Dutch Schools of Art refused him as a pupil. He went to Antwerp, and became a student at the Royal Academy. Then he entered the studio of Louis Detaye, and studied the pictures of Baron Leys. His criticism of the young painter's marble was, "That marble is cheese." The artistic possibilities of marble first attracted him when, a young man of twenty-two, he visited a club at Ghent called the Cercle de la Concorde, where the smoking-room was lined with white marble. His mother and sister joined him at Antwerp, and lived with him four years there.

In 1864 he received a visit from the English picture dealer, Gambart, who saw his "Coming out of Church," and ordered a couple of dozen of that kind at progressive prices each half-dozen. Four years later Gambart ordered four dozen pictures with the same condition of rising value. Gambart, appreciating the genius of the painter, paid him much more than the contract price. He arranged a dinner in his honour at Brussels, and presented him there with a silver claret jug and a cheque for £100 in excess of the price agreed upon.

Many years passed before he even visited Rome, and "Greece I have never seen." He thinks the policy of travelling studentships a great mistake. Scarcely any of the greatest painters travelled in their youth. He derived his knowledge of old Greek and Roman life chiefly from sculpture and antique paintings in museums and elsewhere. He knows Pompeii by heart. He confesses to making slips. In one of his Roman canvases he introduced the *Clematis Jackmani*. He took his leave of the Netherlands in 1870, and took up his residence in England.

He says that in London a painter can obtain everything he wants in the way of models. Rome itself cannot produce more varying types of Italian models than are to be found here. He has found the number 17 a very lucky number for him. His wife was 17 when he met her, the number of their first home was 17; his present house did bear the same number; it was begun on August 17th and entered on November 17th.

The light and colour in his studio has a great effect on him. His first had panels of black decoration; in Brussels, red; in London, light green; in Rome, white. Now the prevailing hue is the silvery one. The book that has helped him most was Leonardo da Vinci's "How to Become a Painter." His first picture in the Royal Academy was hung in 1869. In the thirty-nine years since, he has only missed one year. He has only failed once to exhibit his pictures. He remarks at the close that at the outset of his career his art had a dangerous rival in music. He renounced it for the brush.

WHY NOT A GARDEN ROAD?

A SUGGESTION BY CAPTAIN SWINTON.

WE hear a great deal about garden cities, but now Captain G. S. C. Swinton has made a proposal in the *Fortnightly Review* which promises to make the phrase a Garden Road almost as popular. Captain Swinton's idea in brief is this.

The great problem of the day is to get people back to the land and to empty the overswarming cities into the country. To do this he makes a bold and apparently not an impracticable proposal. He suggests that a strip of land 280 yards wide should be bought, which would pass through the cheapest land available between the English Channel and the Grampians. There would be 100 acres on either side for each mile of the road. The road itself would be 30 feet wide with an ample margin on either side.

Captain Swinton would have the State make the road, buy up the land, reserve a certain portion of either side of it for subsequent developments, and let the rest—up to a width of 280 yards—for allotments and small holdings. He proposes that a beginning should be made by making a road between London and Nottingham. He thinks that the back-land could be bought at an average of £30 an acre.

To make such a road with drains, bridges and culverts would cost about £3,000 a mile for the land, and as much for the making of the road—say, a round million altogether. By spending half a million and making the road you could double the value of the land through which the road is made.

Captain Swinton dwells upon the enormous advantage of having such a road system continually in growth as it were, so as to afford employment for the unemployed, to open up the country and to facilitate allotments. He would meet the expense of the road by levying a tax upon motors, and as in September last year there were 71,000 private motors and 12,000 trade cars, the tax of 10s. a car per annum would pay 4 per cent. upon the outlay of the million required to buy the land and lay out the road.

The scheme is a very interesting one, and I confess I hope that Captain Swinton's idea of a Garden Road is destined to catch on.

CHARLES DARWIN.

THE INCARNATION OF BENEVOLENCE.

A DELIGHTFUL centenary sketch is contributed to *Cornhill* by Leonard Huxley. Mr. Huxley gives the following interesting reminiscences of childhood :—

I can see in my mind's eye the tall figure muffled in long black cloak and slouch hat, stick in hand, even as portrayed in John Collier's picture in the National Portrait Gallery, tramping so many times, for his allotted exercise, round the "Sandwalk"—a dry path about a bit of coppice in whose depths the children could play robbers or make picnic fires. I can see him still, silver of hair and big beard, the incarnation of Socratic benevolence, entering the room where the children were gathered round the table, and patting the curliest-headed youngster on the head with the smiling words, "Make yourself at home and take large mouthfuls." No wonder that this especial visit, when a whole family of seven invaded the tranquil, refreshing house, remains a memory distinct and clear beyond later memories of Down and summer days loud with the humming of bees in the flowering limes.

"THE GIFTED AMATEUR."

Mr. Huxley says of Darwin :—

It is curious to note how much he was just the gifted amateur, how little the professionally trained man of science. He speaks in his letters of his ignorance of botanical detail in relation to his collection of plants; of his loss of time and trouble over the dissection and description of marine animals on the voyage from not being able to draw and from not having sufficient anatomical knowledge.

HIS GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT.

Of his actual achievement Mr. Huxley says :—

Of all the services rendered to his own and future generations by Darwin none, I think, was greater than this: the battle for freedom of thought was fought and won over the "Origin of Species." Freedom of thought, once conceded in the corner of physical science which touched so closely on religious and moral questions, was exercised in other quarters. No longer was it anathema to range beyond an anthropocentric world, to deal as freely with comparative religion as with comparative anatomy, to seek the root and beginnings of the moral faculties among the brutes, to find the secret of original sin, not in the fall of the first man from an imaginary state of primitive innocence, but in the selfish impulses inherited from the ancestral struggle for existence under the cosmic process, and surviving inharmoniously in the altruistic communities founded by man. The progress already made and the reasonable hope of yet further betterment gave a new cast to the idea of human destiny.

"SCIENTIFIC CALVINISM."

Mr. Huxley declares that :—

The old predestinarianism is in some measure reinforced by what may be termed scientific Calvinism, which, by the way, is by no means inconsistent with the argument of ultimate design, though the "general providence" admissible is of course inconsistent with "special providences."

Immortality it leaves where Archbishop Whately found it. On the whole, he finally says of the evolutionary movement, "One of its finest assets is the spirit in which the work was done. The achievement was very great because the man was yet greater."

THE SECRET OF "STANDARD OIL."

BY ITS CREATOR.

IN his random reminiscences in the *World's Work* Mr. J. D. Rockefeller describes the way he came to organise a firm to refine and deal in oil. In 1865 the firm of Clark and Rockefeller was dissolved, and the firm of Rockefeller and Andrews established, having purchased the old business for £14,500. Gradually there was organised the Standard Oil Company, with a capital of £200,000. He ascribes the success of the Standard Oil Company to its consistent policy of making the volume of its business large through the merit and cheapness of its products. It has spared no expense in utilising the best and most efficient methods of manufacture. It has sought for the best superintendents and workmen, and paid the best wages. He goes on to say: "We educated our own men; we trained many of them from boyhood; we strove to keep them loyal by providing them full scope for their ability; they were given opportunities to buy stock, and the company itself helped them to finance their purchases. I may say that the company has been in all its history a most happy association of busy people."

The dividends of the Standard Oil Company run up to 40 per cent. on the capital stock of twenty millions sterling. The capital stock could be raised several hundred per cent. without a penny of overcapitalisation or "water." The increase in the value of the Company's possessions has been natural and absolutely normal, he says.

CHARACTER THE CLUE.

In speaking of the real beginning of the Standard Oil Company, he insists that it was not so much the consolidation of the firms, but the coming together of the men who had the combined brain power to do the work, which was the essential thing. "It is not merely capital and 'plants' and strictly material things which make up a business, but the character of the men behind these things, their personalities and abilities. These are the essentials to be reckoned with."

He disclaims very emphatically certain allegations of having bought property from a widow for less than its value. On the question of rebates, he admits that the Standard Oil Company did receive from railways prior to 1880, but received no advantages for which it did not give compensation. The reason for rebates was that such was the railway's method of business. The profits of the company did not come from advantages given by railways.

THE *Open Court* reproduces a portrait of Darwin in the prime of his life, at the time when he was writing his first works, and before he became widely known. The original photograph was a gift from Darwin to Mr. Victor J. Carus, the young Leipzic zoologist. The face suggests more concentration and force of will than the portraits most current.

A HIGH SCHOOL FOR PEASANTS.

MISS EDITH SELLERS gives us in *Cornhill* one of her charming sketches of Continental progress. She tells the story of the High Schools for Danish Peasants. The poet-Bishop, Nicolai Grundtvig, in the second quarter of the 19th century, found Denmark already ranked by her neighbours among the dying, if not the dead. She had never recovered from the effects of her disastrous war against England. The loss of her fleet seemed to have entailed the loss of all ambition. Grundtvig went about among the people denouncing their lack of patriotism, and rousing them from their fatal indifference. He wrote stirring national hymns recounting the great deeds of their forefathers. The result was a great revival, national, social, and religious. The peasants especially responded, and, seeking to promote their country's salvation, were bidden by Grundtvig, "Educate yourselves."

He first conceived the idea of a Peasants' High School. He insisted that all teaching should be *viva voce*, and no one allowed to go till he was eighteen. The peasants set about realising his ideas. In 1844 a Peasants' High School was opened at Rodding by the Peasants' Union, and other High Schools came into being. The work was put back by the war of 1848, and again by the disasters of 1863.

THE APOSTLE OF THE MOVEMENT.

But in 1886 Dr. Norregaard founded the Peasants' High School at Testrup. He gave up a brilliant future, and, accompanied by wife and brother-in-law, went into a desolate region to throw in his lot with the peasants. He defrayed all the initial expenses of the school, and for years contributed largely to its maintenance. Others followed his example; communal authorities joined in the work. In Denmark alone there are at present no fewer than seventy-five schools in full working order, and the example is being followed in Norway, Sweden, and Finland. During the years 1844 to 1896 no fewer than 120,000 students passed through the Danish Peasants' High Schools. Nearly one-fourth of the whole agricultural population of Denmark contrive to go to a High School for a term.

CHARGE OF £8 A TERM.

The High School term lasts only five months, from the first day of November to the last day of March, and into these five months enough instruction for a whole lifetime has to be compressed. Three-quarters of the students were either peasants, farmers, or agricultural labourers, and they wore the same clothes as they wore when following the plough. Half-a-dozen, perhaps, were land-owners, half-a-dozen market gardeners, a few pedlars, a few fishermen, and two sailors were among the number. The majority were between twenty and thirty years of age. The cost of a winter's course at Testrup is £10 per head, and to this the State contributes £2. Thus £8 each is all the students have to pay. To put by this sum out of an average wage of under £30 a year is no small task for the agricultural labourer.

CULTURE NOT TECHNIQUE.

These High Schools are not dairy or agricultural schools. Their founders insisted that what the peasants need most is not technical training, but mental. Dr. Norregaard, when Miss Sellers was there, told the story of Alexander the Great, and held his agricultural audience spellbound. Another day Norse folklore was even more enthusiastically received. The favourite subjects are history and literature, especially Danish history and literature. But their bodies are trained as carefully in the gymnasium as their brains in the classes. They are taught on the latest Swedish system. In the evenings they have poetry read to them, or music played to them. The whole community is one great family. The students go home as missionaries of culture.

In out-of-the-way villages Miss Sellers has come across men and women keenly interested in literature, a maid who was quite an authority on Shakespeare, a coachman who regarded a translation of Milton as his most cherished possession, Danish peasants who knew more about the history of England than any English farmer she has yet encountered. They fight again with special zest the controversy over the decapitation of Charles the First. Björnstjerne Björnson declares them to be the most enlightened peasantry in the world.

RESULT ON AGRICULTURE.

As a result of this mental training, Denmark, with a climate none too good and a soil none too fertile, threatened in the early eighties with something like starvation, deprived of her chief market in Germany, beset by floods, droughts, epidemics among cattle, plagues of all kinds, with no great landlords to supply models of improved agriculture, set about to develop such openings as remained to her, turned her land into pastures and market gardens, built up in the course of five years 1,000 co-operative dairies, formed 323 cattle-breeding societies, and is growing richer day by day. In other countries small farmers are growing poorer and poorer, while in Denmark they are growing richer. To the trained intelligence of her peasants Denmark owes her present prosperity. And they are what the Peasants' High Schools have made them.

THE Countess of Aberdeen has made another addition to her innumerable activities. She has launched, as editor, the first number of *Slainte*, the penny journal of the Women's National Health Association of Ireland, which now numbers close on a hundred branches, "full of zeal and initiative." To link all these branches into conscious unity is the purpose of *Slainte*. Great prominence is given to the open air treatment at home of pulmonary tuberculosis. The "Babies' Clubs" of Belfast, for weighing infants and advising mothers, are also described. To this new comrade in the campaign against disease and death, welcome!

MR. CARNEGIE DOWN ON SOCIALISM.

MR. ANDREW CARNEGIE, writing in the *World's Work* on "Where Socialism Fails, and how Individualism rather than Socialism tends to improve mankind," insists further that revolutionary Socialism requires a change in human nature, and therefore calls for scant attention. Mr. Carnegie yokes to his chariot the element of variation in the struggle for existence, and insists that the greatest freedom for the individual is necessary to achieve the general advancement of the race.

IN PRAISE OF POVERTY.

It is somewhat amusing to hear him speaking of "present conditions, which give to all men liberty to carve out their careers," and then as a product of those happy present conditions he instances poor Robert Burns!

Seldom if ever to the palace or stately home of wealth comes the messenger of the gods to call men to such honour as follows supreme service to the race. Rank has no place. Wealth robs life of the heroic element, the sublime consecration, the self-sacrifice of ease, needed for the steady development of our powers and the performance of the highest service. Let workmen note how many of the exceptionals mentioned who have carried the race forward were workers with their hands: Shakespeare, Morton, Jenner, Neilson, Lincoln, Symington, Burns, Guttenberg, Edison, Siemens, Bessemer, Mushet, Columbus, Watt, Bell, Arkwright, Franklin, Kay, Murdoch, Hargreaves, Stephenson.

These he describes as instances of beneficent leadership developed under individualism. Mr. Carnegie goes on with his argument: "Only through exceptional individuals, the leaders, man has been enabled to ascend. It is the leaders that do the new things that count, and these have been individualistic to a degree beyond ordinary men and worked in perfect freedom."

IN PRAISE OF SOCIALISTS.

He regards unrest and dissatisfaction as a healthful sign. "Even our Socialistic friends, with their revolutionary ideas, stir the waters for our good":—

Complaint against our Socialistic friends is not that they do not mean well. On the contrary, no class is moved by worthier impulses. Their hearts are in the right place, and one cannot but sometimes admire their aspiration. Thus Keir Hardie writes: "Surely it is reasonable to hope that a day will dawn in which a desire to serve rather than to be served shall be the spur which shall drive men onward to noble deeds."

Such hopes are held by hosts of good individualists. Where he differs from the Socialist is as to the advisability of any violent change from individualism, which has guided and is still guiding in the direction desired through the continual improvement of present conditions.

AN interesting peep into life as it is in Cyprus is given in the *Sunday Strand* by H. D. Collison-Morley. At the monastery, where six hundred guests were accommodated, the rooms were shared indifferently by both sexes, and a young monk acted as chambermaid.

MECHANICAL MODELS.

IN the *Pall Mall Magazine* Mr. Henry Greenly gives much interesting information about the development of models. He tells us that an inch-scale replica of the original "Rocket" will shortly be on view in the South Kensington Museum. The Duke of Westminster has on his estate a miniature railway, which, including the rolling stock, cost just over £1,300 per mile, and can easily deal with 6,000 tons annual goods traffic, and at the same time show a considerable saving over the previous system of horse cartage. The cylinders are as small as five inches by eight inches. The gauge is fifteen inches. The Miniature Railways of Great Britain, Ltd., operate several railways, one on the sands at Blackpool, and one at Sutton Coldfield, near Birmingham. Several of these miniature locomotives are built on the scale of three inches to a foot, and their weight works out at one ton twelve hundredweight. They go at the rate of 106 miles an hour. Sir John Holder's railway at Pitmaston, near Birmingham, boasts three engines of 10½-inch gauge, and a large amount of rolling stock. Mr. E. S. Coats, of Paisley, has got an eighth full-size replica of a modern Great Central Railway six-coupled bogie express engine. It has pulled a load of 1,800 lbs. It has cylinders 1⅞ bore by 3-inch stroke, gauge 7½ inches, the total length of the engine 7ft. 6in. over the buffers. The weight is 700 lbs. Besides the purposes of industry and pleasure, the model serves as a means of education. The Great Northern "Atlantic" express engine has been built to a gauge of only 3¼ inches for a German locomotive inspector, who required to demonstrate some new system of signalling. Not all these model engines are propelled by steam. Some are worked by petrol, some by clockwork, and others by electricity.

Is the Territorial Force a Sham?

Is the Territorial Force, as at present untrained, indeed a sham? Let us examine the elements of this truly weighty question. John Brown enlists in the Regular Army, and on the same day his brother James enlists in the Territorial Force. At the end of, say, five years John Brown is a veteran soldier whose military education has been continuously advancing during 1,826 consecutive days; whereas James has been intermittently under arms, attending drills or in camp, on perhaps 100 days, probably less. If James is equal to John as a fighting man, it is clear that much public money has been wasted upon making the latter a professional soldier; but if, upon the contrary, the military values of the two brothers are approximately proportionate to the time they have respectively devoted to soldiering, then the efficacy of the Territorial Force for defensive or other purposes must appear to leave something to be desired.—"ELIJAH," in the *United Service Magazine*.

TWO OBJECT-LESSONS SIDE BY SIDE
IN PROTECTION AND FREE TRADE.

SENATOR PULSFORD, in the *Nineteenth Century*, offers two experiments from our Colonial laboratory, and applies with no small effect the method of agreement and difference. Here were the two colonies, Victoria and New South Wales, lying side by side, with only the River Murray between them. Victoria is certainly smaller than New South Wales, but she is bigger than Denmark, Belgium, Holland, Switzerland, and Greece put together. She has not lacked room to develop, and her average rainfall is superior to that of New South Wales. From 1866 to 1901 Victoria has never failed to vote for restriction, New South Wales has never failed to vote for Free Trade. The writer then contrasts the figures of the two colonies at the beginning and end of that period. Victoria began with 633,602 inhabitants; ended with 1,201,070. New South Wales began with 428,167, ended with 1,354,846, an increase of 216 per cent. as against Victoria's 89 per cent. Victoria by immigration gained 18,823, New South Wales gained 302,403. The public revenue of Victoria rose from £3,000,000 to £7,700,000, of New South Wales from £2,012,000 to £10,805,000. The aggregate of imports and exports grew from an average for first three years to an average of last three years, in Victoria from £26,300,000 to £36,600,000, in New South Wales from £18,600,000 to £54,600,000. Production in all industries totalled in Victoria £19,200,000 in 1871, and £30,800,000 in 1901; in New South Wales £15,300,000 in 1871, and £38,900,000 in 1901. The production per head sank in Victoria from £26 in 1871 to £25 in 1901, in New South Wales from £30 in 1871 to £28 in 1901. At every period the value of production was higher in the Free Trade State.

The comparison is suggestive.

THE TSAR'S LITTLE DAUGHTERS.

IN the *Girl's Own Paper* Miss Margaret Eagar, who was for some years governess to the small daughters of the Russian Tsar, gives most entertaining glimpses of these young persons. Of the three, Olga is said to be the most intellectual. When she was four years old she learned English and the multiplication table, before she learned Russian. To teach her the latter language, an aged Archbishop was engaged. He came to the governess exclaiming, "The dear child is inspired. I wanted to teach her the multiplication table, and judge my surprise when I found that she knew it already!" The governess explained the natural origin of her proficiency.

When five years old Princess Tatiana had a long illness, and was ordered to take beef juice. This she declined to do. She asked who made it. The governess informed her it was the cook, and, learning that it would give the cook great pleasure if she would take the juice that he had made, the Princess had him sent for. He had to confess that it was one of the young cooks that had made this beef juice. He accordingly was summoned, and, "Little cook," she said, "you made me this juice. Well, stand there and see me drink it." She did so, and gave him the empty cup, and let him go. The governess told her it was very naughty to give so much trouble. The child replied, "You said it would give him pleasure if I drank it."

Anastasie, the fourth, is said to be the cleverest of them all. At two years and eight months she frame-knitted two mufflers for the soldiers. She calculates results in a somewhat amusing way. Being forbidden to jump off the table on threat of punishment, she climbed on the table. The governess promptly took her off and tied her in a chair. She was very downcast, and said, "It's better to climb on the table and jump off and get a little slap, than not to climb and jump; but it's better not to climb and jump than to be tied in a chair." Princess Marie, says the governess, was more remarkable for her goodness than anything else. She also learned very quickly. She has the Royal memory for faces. She has a great determination, and carries through whatever she begins. Of all the children she is the Emperor's favourite.

BELGIUM AND THE CONGO STATE.

WRITING in the *Revue de Paris* recently, Félicien Challaye insists that, to be efficacious, political reform should be accompanied by economic reform, and that the ownership of the soil and the free disposal of its produce should be restored to the natives. He thinks the plan of giving to the negroes large pieces of territory round their villages to cultivate anything but practical. In a country so vast it would require an army of experts, enormous sums of money, and the labour of years to mark out the territory thus restored to the natives. In any case he does not see how such a timid reform could suffice to instal a *régime* conforming to the international engagements respecting property, liberty, and the life of the natives. He warns Belgium that if the Government does not modify its old methods entirely, Great Britain will probably intervene. The only way to solve the international question of the Congo, he says, is to restore the free commerce which is indispensable to the salvation and the progress of the native races.

In *Questions Diplomatiques et Coloniales* Edouard Payen considers the consequences of the annexation for France and for Belgium. In reference to France, he says that with the excellent relations between France and Belgium in the Congo country the substitution of Belgium for the Independent State will change nothing. Has Belgium done good business in annexing the Congo? Generally speaking, it is rather a weakness to have only two products, indiarubber and ivory, as the elements of commerce. It may be that the Congo will one day be found to be rich in minerals.

THE OCCULT IN THE PERIODICALS.

"JOHN KING."

THE February *Theosophist* publishes a letter of Madame Blavatsky's, dated 1881, in which she refers to "John King," who still haunts London *séance* rooms, as an old friend of hers. She says:—

The satin picture was *not* done by me but by the power I call John King: the power which assumed the features and generic name of John King; for it is a generic name and accounts for many contradictory statements from and about him, the John King in different parts of the world. This power I have been acquainted with from my childhood, but saw his face, as you say, years before on a voyage (when Mr. Blavatsky was Governor at Srivan, capital of Armenia, *not at Tiflis*). My chambermaid servant was a medium, and many a time did she scream on the staircase on meeting there or in the passage "John King" with his powerful frame clad in white, who "glared at her," she said, with his fiery black eyes; and more than once saw him near me, she told my visitors.

The February *Theosophist* contains a full report of the present condition of the Theosophical Society all over the world. With this supplement is given away a map showing all the Theosophical centres in India.

EXORCISM FOR HYDROPHOBIA.

Mr. E. S. Butcher sends to the *Contemporary Review* a remarkable account of the way in which patients suffering from hydrophobia are cured in seven days in Egypt by charms, consisting of verses from the Psalms and fairy rings, formed by seven children who walked seven times round the patient on all-fours, barking, howling and growling like dogs. They then each bit off a piece of unleavened cake, which the patient afterwards ate and got better. There was no hydrophobia in Egypt till the English brought it, and our occupation has led to the revival of this very curious custom in the Egyptian Church. The exorcism is said to work marvels.

MORE OF DR. HARTMANN'S MARVELS.

In the *Occult Review* Dr. Franz Hartmann tells two of his weird stories. The first of a dead wizard who, to avenge the curse of a neighbour which killed him, caused millions of huge ants to issue from the earth, which as completely riddled all the woodwork in his enemy's house and farm buildings as if they had been white ants. The other is a still more horrible story of a loathsome Jew, who had an amulet which compelled every woman upon whom he looked with desire to come and implore him to make her his mistress. Dr. Hartmann and Mr. Arthur Blackwood, the author of "John Silence," would make an admirable pair for the writing of a series of Necromantic Romances.

"SPIRIT-DRAWINGS."

Spirit-drawings of a remarkable kind are reproduced by Mr. Beccles Wilson in the *Strand*. He reproduces a trance-picture of a fusion of Japanese Shogun with one of the species of lepidoptera, which is the work of a policeman with no natural artistic gift, yet it betrays a technical knowledge of draughtsmanship astonishing in one absolutely ignorant of even the rudiments of drawing. The writer tells of a married man fifty years of age obliged to give up his work as book-keeper owing to an injury to his spine. He had nervous twitchings in the hand, and

On the advice of a hypnotist he decided to encourage these premonitory symptoms, and with pencil and paper before him he sat down to await results. Tracings were directly made, the movements being violent and erratic; but it was some days before an object that could be recognised was produced. Gradually, however, out of the meaningless maze of lines appeared heads, crude and barbaric; vases covered with curious and fantastic faces, dark-skinned warriors, and animals of unknown types. In the course of a few months the pictures assumed quite an artistic appearance.

"THE SUB-CONSCIOUS SELF."

The scientific explanation suggested by the writer is:—

It is the sub-conscious self, inherent in all of us, the subliminal spirit which Socrates knew, and which he called his Daemon. And what is this sub-conscious self but the net result of all our unheeded observations and apprehensions, which, below the surface of our workaday ego, have been slowly building themselves up into a separate faculty?

THE FAMOUS DR. DEE.

In Elizabeth's reign Dr. Dee was held in high repute. According to Miss Fell Smith, who writes on "John Dee and the Spirits," in the *National Review*:—

Dee was consulted on every enterprise contemplated by sea or land. He was supposed to be able from his knowledge of the stars and their combinations, and from his great Cabalistic and Talmudic learning, to be able to forecast the future and predict the issue of events. He cast hundreds of horoscopes and looked into a great magic mirror. Among his constant visitors were the Queen's favourite, the Earl of Leicester, his nephew, Sir Philip Sidney, Sir Walter Raleigh, Sir Humphrey Gilbert, Frobisher, Hudson, Davis, and others of the early navigators; Hakluyt, their historian; Sir Francis Walsingham, the Queen's Secretary, and Lady Walsingham, who lived hard by at Barn Elms; her Vice-Chamberlain, Sir Christopher Hatton. Some of these came as messengers from the Queen, who herself was a frequent caller. Sometimes she rode over on horseback; whenever she drove near in her coach she invariably stayed to see the astrologer in passing.

The first number of the *Equinox*, the official organ of the "A. A.," is announced for March 21st. It is described as "The Review of Scientific Illuminism." It will cost 5s.; be published twice a year, and contain from 300 to 400 pages.

To visualise the Empire to the ordinary stay-at-home reader is to render no small service to mankind. This is the task undertaken by Messrs. Cassell in *The King's Empire Pictured by the Camera*, which is appearing in sevenpenny fortnightly parts. The first Part shows in large and beautiful plates how the King and his subjects travel; and a curious jumble of conveyances it is, from elephant cart and camel carriage and dog-sleigh to motor-car, railway train and ocean liner. Mr. Fitchett writes a preface of exultation over the extent and ethical altitude of our Empire, which, he says, comprises more than a fifth of the earth's dry surface and only a little less than one-fourth of the human race, and attains a moral grandeur previously unequalled in the record of empire.

A NEW ARGUMENT FOR THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

IN the profoundly Conservative *Blackwood* it is interesting to find an argument against the abolition of the House of Lords as being a step making too strongly in the direction of Conservative ascendancy! The writer asks us to suppose the Peers released from all the restrictions which confine them more or less at present, and free to use their whole wealth and influence and favour for the constitutional cause:—

With the whole combined weight of the Conservative aristocracy poured into one channel, and brought to bear upon a single chamber, the result must inevitably be a vast accession of strength to the Conservative Party in Parliament. If instead of being separated from the Commons they spoke through the mouth of the Commons; if instead of being brought to a head, as one may say, the aristocratic element were dispersed through and amalgamated with the popular chamber, clothed with the popular livery, and with as good a claim to represent the popular will as any other element in the House, is it not certain that it would exercise a more effective control over public affairs than it can possibly exercise at present; that its influence would become more powerful in proportion as it grew less palpable, and would double its present substance by throwing off its present form? And in that case would not a Conservative majority become almost as great a certainty in the Lower House as it is now in the Upper? Is it not absurd to suppose that this inevitable consummation can have been overlooked by the acute and thoughtful politicians who tell us that the House of Lords must perish? They cannot have failed to see that what the Lords lose directly by abolition of the one chamber they would more than gain indirectly by their increased influence in the other.

All reformers must be grateful to *Blackwood* for this delightful argument. For consistency demands either that *Blackwood* and all Conservatives of the same dye should set about to demand the abolition of the House of Lords in order to secure a permanent Conservative ascendancy in the councils of the realm, or *Blackwood* must disavow the desire to see Conservatives permanently in the ascendant.

WHY THE SOUL SEARCHES FOR GOD.

MRS. ANNIE BESANT concludes in the *Theosophist* for February her paper on "The Search for God." She says:—

The human soul is always searching for God: the reason for that continual search is that the Spirit in man is himself God; the Spirit in man is a germ of the divine Life, poured out from the highest God, from the first Logos as we say, in our theosophical phrase, from the one from whom the second and third proceed. That first manifestation of Deity pours Himself out into man as the human Spirit, which is to unfold through countless reincarnations. Here is the secret of the search for God; man is seeking his innermost Self, is seeking the very centre of his own being.

Mrs. Besant repudiates the limited notion that there should be only one conception of God:—

What we need in religion is not one conception of God, but that every man should have his own conception of God and strive to widen it as his own life grows more divine; that each one of us, seeing the conception of our brother, may learn from that something that we had not in our own, and so may work out the very purpose of evolution, the unity in infinite diversity. Each should form for himself his own conception of the Divine. It will be according to his own divinity, according to his stage in evolution. Let him think his highest, his best, his noblest; let him think the very grandest thought that his intellect can image; having made that image, let him realise that only one ray of the Divine Light shines through it, and that perfect as it is to him, it is but one facet of the everlasting Beauty. As his soul aspires towards it and becomes like it, image after image will rise before him, higher and higher, and with every growth in himself his idea of God will become more beautiful.

"THE SUFFRAGETTE OF EUROPE."

MR. ARNOLD WHITE in *London* thus describes Servia. "Like the suffragettes," he says, "Servia has trouble with a stronger Power. Unlike the suffragettes, her trouble is a question of life and death." Mr. White gives a very crisp account of the situation, and lays stress on one significant fact:—

Stretched across Europe, from the North Sea to the Adriatic, is a wedge of military power controlling nearly seven millions of armed men, all of whom are trained to war and led to battle by German words of command. The German partnership with Austria already dominates Central Europe.

WHERE EVERYBODY HATES EVERYBODY.

Of the Balkans generally, he says a hornet's nest is comparatively an abode of peace and goodwill:—

Everybody in the Peninsula hates somebody more than he loves his neighbour or even himself. Racial, religious, economic, and territorial rivalries are the ingredients in the witches' cauldron of the Balkans. The Bulgar hates the Turk, as well he may; and the Turk's hatred of the Bulgar is not without justification, as pages of history show. The Montenegrin hates the Austrian, and the antipathy is mutual. The Serb hates the Austrian, and the Austrian despises the Serb. The Roumanian hates the Greek, and the Greek hates the Turk, and the Macedonian hated everybody impartially until the phenomenon of the Young Turk triumph called a halt in the game of massacre which had prevailed in Macedonia from the day German interests required permanent unrest in the Balkans, until she and her Austrian ally were ready for an advance in force on the Bosphorus, the Gulf of Salonika, and the waters of the Ægean.

SERVIA'S ONE HOPE.

From a military aspect Servia lies, he says, at the mercy of Austria. Her only hope is in enlisting the support of the other Slav States in the Near East. He shows how Servia, with marvellous ability, found other markets for her pigs, and so rendered the Austrian boycott futile. What Servia wants is a strip of territory which will open communications direct with the sea without passing through foreign territory. Mr. White says it cannot be said that King Peter has governed his country ill. Since his accession the Servian Debt has been reduced, national engagements have been paid, and there is no floating debt. He is greatly admired in Montenegro. Servia to-day is living under more favourable conditions and is better ruled than at any time during the past century. The one burning question is, will the Powers allow Servia to build a railway to the Adriatic? The bugle that wakes the troops on the morning of the Battle of Armageddon may, says Mr. White, be sounded at Belgrade.

CENTENARY OF THE QUARTERLY.

THE first number of the *Quarterly Review* made its appearance in February, 1809, we are reminded by the *Book Monthly* of February. Like the *Edinburgh Review*, which was founded in October, 1802, and adopted the blue colour denoting Whigism, the *Quarterly* adopted the buff colour of the Tories, and has remained true to its colour to this day.

It was John Murray II., the "Anak of publishers," who brought the *Quarterly* into existence. Soon Sir Walter Scott severed his connection with the *Edinburgh*, whose politics did not suit him, to become associated with the new venture, and his advice proved very useful in many ways. He pointed out that the literary section should be as carefully looked after as the political, because it was by this means only that the *Quarterly* could acquire any firm and extended reputation. The first number contained eighteen articles, the opening one being entitled "Affaires d'Espagne," and most of the others more or less of a literary sort—one on Burns, another on Sanskrit, a third on the Georges, and a fourth on Curran's Speeches. Not an attractive list of contents, but the first edition of 4,000 copies was sold, and a second edition was called for.

One of Murray's difficulties was to get it out punctually to date, for punctuality was not a strong point with Gifford, the editor. The fifth number contained a long article by Southey on Nelson, for which a hundred guineas was paid, and it seems to have been arranged that Southey should receive a hundred guineas for each article he contributed. This was handsome pay; but Southey, on the other hand, found it difficult to put up with Gifford's habit of revising and changing his manuscript. The poet's answer was to send his articles direct to Murray, not to the editor. By 1817 the *Quarterly* was printing 12,000 copies, and a few months later 14,000 copies, probably the high-water mark of its circulation. Lockhart was all punctuality as an editor, and it is said that when he altered a manuscript it was always to improve it. The present John Murray acted as editor for a year or so. The present editor, George W. Prothero, succeeded his brother, Rowland E. Prothero, nearly ten years ago.

THE *Cœnobium*, which recently conducted an inquiry on the two distinct points, what are your forty favourite works in the domains of science, morality, and art? and which is your favourite book? tells us in No. 1 of the present year that only a few correspondents replied to the second question. The theologians, not unnaturally, named the Bible, but twelve other correspondents also named the Bible or parts of the Bible. Dante received four votes; Cervantes, Renan, and Carducci each had three votes; Homer, Virgil, Shakespeare, Molière, Rousseau, Goethe, Victor Hugo, and some others, each one. Two philosophers chose Montaigne, another philosopher Spinoza, and a third Kant.

POETRY IN THE MAGAZINES.

ON MILTON.

IN *Scribner's* Mr. Henry van Dyke indites a noble poem on Milton. The first stanza runs:—

Lover of beauty, walking on the height
Of pure philosophy and tranquil song;
Born to behold the visions that belong
To those who dwell in melody and light,
Milton, thou spirit delicate and bright!
What drew thee down to join the Roundhead throng
Of iron-sided warriors, rude and strong,
Fighting for freedom in a world half night?

Lover of liberty at heart wast thou,
Above all beauty bright, all music clear
To thee she bared the splendour of her brow,
Breathing her virgin promise in thine ear,
And bound thee to her with a double vow—
Exquisite Puritan, grave Cavalier!

The closing lines of the third stanza tell how sorrow has deepened and sublimed the genius of the poet:—

Where hast thou learned this deep, majestic strain,
Surpassing all thy youthful lyric grace,
To sing of Paradise? Ah, not in vain
The griefs that won at Dante's side thy place,
And made thee, Milton, by thy years of pain,
The loftiest poet of the Saxon race!

FOR SHAKESPEARE.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle does a daring thing in *Cornhill*. He not merely argues against the theory of the Baconian authorship of Shakespeare's plays. He puts his argument in the mouth of Shakespeare, and he puts it into verse. His success is equal to his daring. By way of example take this paragraph:—

You prate about my learning. I would urge
My want of learning rather as a proof
That I am still myself. Have I not traced
A seaboard to Bohemia, and made
The canons roar a whole wide century
Before the first was forged? Think you, then,
That he, the ever-learned Verulam,
Would thus have erred? So may my very faults
In their gross falseness prove that I am true,
And by that falseness gender truth in you. . . .
I'll lay one final plea. I pray you look
On my presentment, as it reaches you.
My features shall be sponsors for my fame;
My brow shall speak when Shakespeare's voice is dumb,
And be his warrant in an age to come.

The Royal Visit to Berlin.

MR. EDWARD DICEY, in the *Empire Review*, after presenting a very readable record of the Berlin visit, sums up as follows:—

After the reception given to King Edward VII., not only by the German Emperor, but by the German Press and the German public, three conclusions may safely be stated as established. The first is that there exist no questions in dispute between England and Germany; the second is that neither country entertains any feeling towards the other than that of good-will and amity; and the third is that both nations alike desire peace, and are convinced that so long as the two countries remain united in friendship the peace of Europe is assured.

Random Readings from the Reviews.

LORD MORLEY'S NEXT BOOK.

It is reported (says *East and West*) that Lord Morley is engaged in writing a book on India, and that it will be even a greater work than his "Life of Gladstone." The report hinted at the probability that he had joined the India Office as much with the intention of obtaining an insight into the affairs of this great Dependency as with that of serving his party in one of the most responsible positions which a statesman may consent to occupy at his age. If there be any truth in the report, we may congratulate ourselves in anticipation upon the honour and good fortune of counting among our permanent literary and political guides a statesman and man of letters of Lord Morley's eminence and brilliance. The task is certainly worthy of the man, for there is no part of the British Empire where the statesman is confronted with problems of greater variety and interest than Hindustan.

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PERSONALITY THE SECRET OF SUCCESS.

A writer in *Chambers' Journal* for March says that in countless cases success has been won by so-called uneducated men. In literature he instances Bunyan, Burns, Dickens, and Shakespeare. In war, politics, invention, and the sphere of public affairs he names Napoleon, Marlborough, Nelson, Franklin, Lincoln, Cecil Rhodes, and Disraeli, and says it is doubtful whether any one of these great men could have passed the London "matric." What was the secret of their success? They possessed one thing in common which cannot be found in the curriculum of the schools—namely, authority, the power of compelling belief, of arresting attention, the power of bringing the world to their knees in wondrous worship. That something is the secret of success. There is something in real greatness towards which men must gravitate. It is not knowledge or industry or brilliant gifts. It is the secret of personality—subtle, mysterious, indefinable, incommunicable—a gift of the gods.

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SPITALFIELDS SILK.

It was at the point of its highest perfection that the figured silk loom was introduced into England by the French and Netherlandish Protestant refugees escaping from religious persecutions in their own countries. It is uncertain where the first loom of this kind was set up; but, most probably, it was at Norwich, in which city about 4,000 refugees from the Netherlands settled in 1588, many of whom were no doubt weavers and their assistants. Others of the refugees, chiefly French, settled at Sandwich, Canterbury and London. The London settlers, those who were weavers, and of trades associated with weaving such as dyers, loom-builders, reed-makers, and others, naturally made their homes in the weavers' quarter of the town, which was between Basinghall Street, where Weavers' Hall was situated, and Bishopsgate Street; then, as their numbers increased, they overflowed into Norton Folgate and the country districts immediately outside the walls, thus starting the famous and prosperous settlement of silk handicraftsmen so long associated with Spitalfields and Bethnal Green in the East of London. It was not, however, until the year of the "Revocation of the Edict of Nantes" (1685) when the emigration of the French Huguenot refugees took place, and 500,000 of the most skilled and industrious artificers escaped from their native land, and carried their goods and the practice of their handicrafts to various Protestant countries, that silk-weaving in London received its great impetus, and that Spitalfields became the home of one of the most beautiful, skilful, and flourishing trades of this country.—LUTHER HOOPER, in the *Art Journal* for February.

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VERILY A CONUNDRUM.

What precisely is this "*historic* Episcopate"? Is it represented by the Presbyter-Bishop of the Pastoral Epistles and St. Clement of Rome? or by the monarchical Bishop of St. Ignatius and St. Cyprian? or by the tribal Bishop of the Celtic Church? or by the feudal Bishop of mediæval Europe? or by the Erastian Bishop of Tudor England? or by the "tulchan" Bishop of seventeenth-century Scotland? or by the political Bishop of the Hanoverians? or by the "Apostolic" Bishop of the Tractarians? or by the Episcopal presbyter of the Presbyterian "High" Churchmen? or by the Delegate-Bishop of modern Rome? or, finally, by the Superintendent-Bishop of some Protestant Churches? All are equally historic, and so are many other forms of ecclesiastical system. History is never a partisan, and the tradition which it delivers from the past to the present is too vast and various to serve any particular theory. To my thinking, this phrase, "historic Episcopate," is unmeaning and unhelpful. It really means no more than the particular form of ecclesiastical government which modern Anglicans possess, and which is repudiated by everybody else. If for "Home Reunion" we could substitute such a phrase as the "recognition of Christian unity," we should be on safer ground in these discussions.—CANON HENSON, in the *Churchman*.

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INDIA AS THE SAVIOUR OF THE WORLD.

What Japan has failed to do, let India do. Let Hindostan be the saviour of the world. Let India build up an enlightenment of a new order—a civilisation which rests secure on the twin props of spirituality and materialism. Let India dovetail the body and spirit activities and out of the two design a board on which humanity can dance, sing and grow. This is India's mission. Let India fulfil it, and thereby not only put herself on the path of progress, but also enrich all humanity.—SAINT NEHAL SINGH, in the *Modern Review* (Calcutta).

"THE MOST EXALTED PERSONAGE ON EARTH."

One of the most interesting experiences during my stay was the being present when Mrs. Besant first met H. P. B. She had reviewed for Mr. Stead "The Secret Doctrine," and had formed a desire to know its great author. One evening when the usual group were in H. P. B.'s room, she playing solitaire, the cigarette papers and tobacco box on her table, Mrs. Besant was announced. She came with her old friend and co-worker, Mr. Herbert Burrows. The rest of us of course left the conversation to the dignitaries, but I gazed with deep interest at the famous woman who was later to become the most illustrious Theosophist since H. P. B., and, as I believe, the most Exalted Personage on earth next to the Masters.—ALEX. FULLERTON, in the *Theosophic Messenger*.

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THE ONE THING NEEDFUL IN EDUCATION.

The hunger for work which comes to every man when he first faces the life struggle, that lonely, competitive personal struggle which we must all know, I shall, once for all, describe as working for the market. That is the one thing needful to make our schools alive again. If we are to have a great Renaissance in school and college, our boys must realise that they are truly working for a market. This market may be man's market, where one earns one's living, or God's market, where one earns one's salvation. It is this sacramental touch of the spirit of work upon our spirits which we ought to yearn for in the lives of our youth in our secondary schools and colleges. This touch is now very much wanting. We must assess the value of our schools more in terms of vocation, and less in terms of culture, especially of self-culture. All pursuits in school should be thought of by the students as vocational pursuits.—J. G. CROSSWELL, in the (American) *Educational Review*.

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WHAT CAME OF A GRASSHOPPER'S CHIRP.

The many thousands who visit the Royal Exchange daily have very little idea, indeed, that this pile owes its origin to a curious, not to say a comic cause. We owe it all to nothing else than the chirping of a grasshopper. The chirp of this insect attracted the attention of a little boy who was "crawling unwillingly to school" to a baby, the son of a poor woman—so poor that she could not support the child, and therefore had left him to perish alone in a large field near her hovel. The little boy took the child home, and it was brought up, and eventually blossomed into no less a person than Sir Thomas Gresham, who built the Royal Exchange. The prosperous merchant, to hand down to posterity the incident which saved his life, took the grasshopper for his crest, and that is the reason why that insect is placed, as everyone can see, over the Royal Exchange of London.—HARRY FURNISS on "The Light Side of Finance," in *The Strand*.

THE DEFENSIVE WORTH OF A CROOK-HANDLED UMBRELLA.

Mr. Bernard Parsons in *Fry's* describes the new self-defence, which in France is quite common among ladies. It is simply the practised use of crook-handled umbrella or walking stick. A young lady who was an adept arrested a pickpocket who had seized her bag-purse, and sent him sprawling at full length on his face on the road, having neatly tripped him up by crooking his right ankle with her umbrella. Again, when he rose to his feet and sprang at the lady, she encircled his neck by the crook of the umbrella, and laid him on his face again. Again she flung him by gripping his left ankle, and picked up the stolen bag with her umbrella crook. And by this time the police arrived.

* * *

WHEN READERS DIFFER.

It is extraordinary how opinion differs in regard to what constitutes an immoral or improper novel. From my own experience I quote two examples. One reader objected to Morrison's "Tales of Mean Streets" on the ground that the frequent use of the word "bloody" made it immoral and unfit for circulation. Another reader, of somewhat narrow views, who had not read a great deal, was absolutely horrified that such a painfully indecent book as "Adam Bede" should be provided out of the public rates for the destruction of the morals of youth and maidens!—MR. JAMES DUFF BROWN, in the *Library World*.

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JAPANESE MISSIONARIES OF EMPIRE.

There is great bitterness in China as to the rôle played by the Japanese Phrynes, of whom one of their own countrymen brutally said, "they played in Japanese colonisation the same rôle which the missionaries filled in the case of Western Powers." They are of a thoroughly bad type, and their propaganda, exclusively among the Chinese, is in the opinion of the expert, causing serious inroads upon the health of the community. Still, the administration is credited with obtaining a yearly sum from the issue to them of licences to trade, probably the most despicable form of revenue ever collected by any Government—MR. C. WATNEY, in "The Future of Manchuria," in the *Contemporary Review*.

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THE UTILITY OF THE APPENDIX.

For the benefit of my medical readers who accept the broadcast statement of there being no use for the *cæcum*, or appendix, I desire to emphatically state that there is every use for it, as there is for every other part of the human system. The appendix is a pocket-like receptacle for mucus or slimy fluid which is invaluable as an aid to digestion. The removal of this organ must inevitably add materially to chronic constipation.—MR. W. H. EDWARDS, in the *Occult Review*.

The Reviews Reviewed.

AMERICAN REVIEW OF REVIEWS.

Mr. Roosevelt bulks largely in the *American Review of Reviews*, as he seems to do in everything American. Three papers touching on his record and his projected tour have been separately noticed. So has the paper dealing with the American tramp. A very reassuring article on the safety of travel on the modern ocean liner is supplied by Mr. E. A. Stevens. The bigger the ship, the greater are the probabilities of its not coming to final disaster. Mr. W. G. McGee describes what he calls the new union among the States—the collective action taken by all the States in the direction of estimating and preserving the common national resources. Mr. F. J. Dyer has a very interesting paper on the science of fruit-handling, and shows how by wisely plucking, packing, and cooling, fruit can be saved from decay, and much profit made.

Mr. C. C. Adams gives a glowing account of Africa in transformation, with special reference to recent developments in rapid transport by river and rail.

The catholic comprehensiveness of the month's *chronique* must impress every reader. President-elect Taft's visit of inspection to the Panama Canal is freely photographed and commented upon. He seems to have been satisfied with his tour. It is noted that his Cabinet will be chiefly composed of lawyers. The world tour of the American navy, which covered 45,000 miles, seems to have afforded a splendid discipline to the fleet as well as a gratifying illustration of the world's friendship. In every way it has been a pronounced success. The revised tariff is expected to be as protectionist as the present law, but more scientific. It will put some articles now dutiable upon the free list, and will sharply cut duties on most manufactured imports. The editor declares that though there is not at present much prospect for a Republican income tax, the opinion prevails that such a tax must come in the comparatively near future.

THE CONTEMPORARY REVIEW.

The most important paper in the March *Contemporary* is Mr. Charles Lowe's interview with Sir Max Waechter on the subject of European Federation. It is noticed elsewhere, as also are several other articles.

THE LEPERS OF MOLOKAI.

Jack London contributes a description of the lepers in the Leper Settlement of Molokai, in Honolulu. They seem to be very well off:—

> In spite of the fact that they are afflicted by disease, the lepers form a happy colony, divided into two villages and numerous country and seaside homes, of nearly a thousand souls. They have six churches, a Young Men's Christian Association building, several assembly halls, a band stand, a race track, baseball grounds and shooting range, an athletic club, numerous glee clubs, and two brass bands. "They are so contented down there," Mr. Pinkham told me, "that you can't drive them away with a shot-gun." This I lately verified for myself.

THE FUTURE OF MANCHURIA.

Writing from Mukden, Mr. Charles Watney gives an interesting account of the present condition and future prospects of Manchuria. He says:—

> The end of the Russo-Japanese War merely began the fight for Manchuria, and the contest is now being vigorously carried on. It is curious to study the methods of the combatants in this tripartite struggle—the pushful, confident, and rather arrogant Japanese; the depressed but still dogged and hopeful Russian; the suave, impassive and tenacious Chinaman. I pin my faith to the Chinaman.

OTHER ARTICLES.

Dr. Dillon, in his *Chronique*, writes with knowledge about the Persian embroglio. Miss Winifred Stephens mildly censures Mr. Andrew Lang for his zeal in vindicating the Maid against Anatole France. "Entenspiegel" gives a cheerful account of "The Young Generation in Germany," and Mr. W. S. Urquhart asserts and explains "The Pessimistic Tendency of Pantheism."

Cornhill.

Cornhill for March is a very interesting number. Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's "Shakespeare's Expostulation," Miss Sellers' "High Schools for Danish Peasants," and Leonard Huxley's "Charles Darwin" have been separately noticed. Mr. Sidney Lee writes on Charlotte Brontë in London, and traces the originals of the characters in her novels in the persons whom she met in London, notably Mr. Smith, her publisher, and Thackeray. Mr. Thomas Seccombe takes decided exception to the unqualified eulogies that are being poured on the memory of Poe, and says that they leave him all but utterly cold. His interest in and admiration for his work seems to be appreciably diminishing. His best work was admittedly Tennysonian. Mr. J. St. Loe Strachey writes on Pope and the modern woman. He insists that Pope's work possesses the infallible mark of true poetry. It is infused with passion, and passion is the true touchstone by which we may know poetry. He declares that Pope's pictures of women fit women to-day with remarkable accuracy.

In the *Wide World* Dr. F. A. Stoddard tells a sensational story of a fight with two boa-constrictors. As he confesses that he himself calmly and without need told the natives an untruth as to the way he got his jaguar skin, the reader may be perhaps permitted to draw his own conclusions concerning the narrative as a whole.

THE FORTNIGHTLY REVIEW.

THE most remarkable paper in the *Fortnightly Review* is Alfred Russel Wallace's address at the Royal Institution upon Darwinism, which I quote elsewhere. I mention it here in order to call the special attention of the reader, who may have missed it, to read this most remarkable and lucid exposition of the world of love, as visualised and interpreted by Darwinism. Another remarkable paper, although there is nothing in it that is new, is the first instalment of Count Leo Tolstoy's "The Law of Force and the Law of Love." That also I quote elsewhere. The only other leading article noticed at length is Captain Swinton's plea for a garden road.

FINANCIAL DIFFICULTY OF THE LABOUR MEMBERS.

Mr. Atherley Jones, writing on the Labour Party in Parliament, discusses the effect which the decision of the Court of Appeal, forbidding the use of the funds of Trades Unions for the payment of Labour Members, will have upon the future of that party in Parliament :—

Democracy has opened the portals of Parliament to the working man; his services cannot be gratuitous; private subsidy, whether by an individual or a caucus, is incompatible with the independence of the representative; friction and inquietude, it is rumoured, are already developing among Labour Members under the caucus system; and the decision of the Court of Appeal will certainly have done good service, if it awaken Parliament to a sense of the dangers menacing that full freedom of political action on the part of its members which must ever be the surest guarantee of the honour and dignity of the House of Commons and the stability of constitutional government.

AGENTS PROVOCATEURS IN RUSSIA.

Dr. A. S. Rappoport writing upon the Russian Police, political and secret, maintains that, however stupid the police may be, their unscrupulous use of the *agent provocateur* has enabled them to handicap and render futile the efforts of the Revolutionists :—

The *agents provocateurs* are recruited from all parts of the nation, without any distinction as to nationality, sex, age, and social status; one finds among them young girls and mature women, schoolboys and greybeards. By the side of the hooligan and the criminal, trying to escape punishment, one may meet workmen, students, journalists, *littérateurs*, medical practitioners, lawyers, and civil engineers. All professions are represented, and all those who sell their services to the secret police as *agents provocateurs* are induced to do so either by the love of gain, ambition, or the anxiety to escape punishment for crimes committed.

CHEAP IMPERIAL TELEGRAPHY.

Sir Charles Bright, writing upon "Imperial Telegraphy at a Popular Tariff," says that it is not so easy to reduce cable rates as some people think. The increase in working expenses is enormous. He says that 90 per cent. of the cable messages are sent in code, and that it is possible to send in two words a Transatlantic message which, when decoded, works out to 170 words. For five hours out of every twenty-four the cables are practically unworked. Frenchmen can send a cablegram to their most distant possessions at a halfpenny per word, and it costs us twenty-four times as much to telegraph to Egypt as the Frenchman pays to telegraph to Algiers. He says that it is conceivable that some day an all-round Imperial tariff of a comparatively low order, such as 9d., may be found feasible by the cable companies working in harmony. He pleads for the completion of an All-British cable girdle round the world. But Sir Charles Bright, while sympathising with Mr. Henniker Heaton's penny per word cablegram, dismisses it as practically beyond the sphere of practical politics.

COQUELIN.

Mr. J. N. Raphael contributes an interesting paper of personal reminiscences concerning Coquelin. He says that in rehearsing, Coquelin knew the play backwards, and every part of it as well as his own from the first day's rehearsal. He was word-perfect in the fifty-three plays of his *répertoire*. Being accused of boasting, he challenged his critic to put him to the test. Cues were selected at random from sixteen plays out of the fifty-three, and he never missed a cue or made one mistake. Coquelin would never speak in English to any Englishman who spoke French, but he did speak it and spoke it fairly well. He was on terms of affectionate friendship with King Edward, and extremely friendly with the German Emperor. He refused to accept the decoration of the Legion of Honour. He used to say, "My decoration is my turn-up nose—I need nothing else." He had a premonition that he would never play *Chanticleer*, and he died with a happy smile upon his lips.

There is another dramatic paper in the *Review* entitled "The Psychology of Acting," by Mr. Robb Lawson; and Mr. W. R. Thayer gives us the first part of a paper entitled "Cavour and Bismarck; Parallels and Contrasts."

The Empire Review.

THE March number is full of interest. The proposal to base Imperial Federation on Social Reform has been separately noticed, as also Mr. Edward Dicey's conclusions from the Royal Visit to Berlin. Lord Morley's Indian proposals are sympathetically reviewed by Sir Andrew Fraser, late Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, who, while heartily approving in principle, is strongly of opinion that details should be left to be worked out by the local government. "Diplomatist," discussing the South African Constitution, supports "federation" as more likely to maintain British Supremacy than "unification," which at present would mean mere Dutch Ascendancy. Mr. William Haydon describes the Public Control Committee of the L.C.C., which has been called the Council's "maid-of-all-work."

WORLD'S WORK.

MR. ROCKEFELLER'S reminiscences, the new guns for fighting airships, cinematograph in colour, and Carnegie on Socialism, have been separately noticed. They form the chief features in a very interesting number.

THE NEXT BUDGET.

Mr. W. M. J. Williams deals with some probable methods of the next Budget. He thinks the revenue outlook is much brighter than it was only a few months ago. Many in writing of the revenue have, he says, forgotten that Mr. Asquith remitted £3,400,000 from sugar last April, and thought there was a great drop on the Customs at the end of 1908. Taking this into account, the real fall at the end of December was not more than half a million. The Commons will probably be as hard as steel to any appeal for more money for Army purposes. He suggests the abolition of the irritating remnant of the Sugar Duty, which would take quite 3 millions. As possible sources of revenue, he suggests that 2 millions might be taken from the payment of the Debt. He thinks that the charge on publicans' licences should be made to yield double its present amount, that is, about 2¼ millions more. The licences of brewers for selling should be graduated according to output, and yield possibly half a million. Taxation of ground values at the rate of 1s. in the pound would yield about 4½ millions. A graduated income-tax would yield from 3 to 5 millions.

A WORLD-PARLIAMENT OF FARMERS.

Mr. D. C. Lee describes the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome, which was held last December. It was called to remedy the abuses of speculators in corn, who, by spreading false reports as to the value of the approaching harvests, put into their own pockets nearly two hundred millions sterling. The Institute, for which King Victor Emanuel has provided a permanent home in a rich and commodious palace not far from the Porta del Popolo, will collect by cable and telegraph, as well as by post, statistical facts regarding the condition of crops, both realised and prospective, will interpret and analyse these reports, and deduce conclusions and summaries. It will publish and disseminate this information. The producer will thus be able to form an opinion of the value of what he has to sell. The Institute will make lying unprofitable. No one will pay for a lie when the truth can be had for nothing. The endowment for the palace to the Institute alone consists of two Royal estates set apart by the King. Their annual income is over £15,000. So Rome, the ancient capital of the world, has become the seat of a world-parliament of agriculture.

ADVANCE OF THE NEGRO.

Mr. Booker Washington describes the rapid progress of the negro race as seen on a journey through Mississippi. He reports the success of the Negro National Business League. The negroes have displayed great enthusiasm for education. He reports that at the present time there are no less than forty-five negro banks in the United States. All but one or two of them are in Southern States. In the one city of Jackson, Mississippi, there are ninety-three businesses conducted by negroes in that city; forty-four concerns do a total annual business of about £77,600 a year. About 73 per cent. of the coloured people own, or are buying, their own homes.

Mr. W. C. Platts describes the reclamation of the hooligan in the Castle Howard Reformatory Farms School. Mr. A. Hamilton describes a ropeway plant for loading and unloading ore in New Caledonia. Mr. M. H. Payne gives a short account of the nitrate industry in Chili.

THE NATIONAL REVIEW.

In the *National Review* for March, Mr. Carlyon Bellairs, M.P., writing on the Naval Crisis, adheres to the opinion he expressed again and again last year that no programme can be considered satisfactory that does not provide for six large armoured ships, six cruisers and 24 destroyers, and has in view the repetition of this programme for several years in succession.

"An Old Parliamentary Hand," writing on "Front and Back Benches," laments that "the attenuated ranks behind seem as poor and devoid of conspicuous talent as those in front. One eagerly searches, but in vain, for any who might be reckoned a force in the future, or as likely to inspire even a mild enthusiasm."

Canon Barry in an article entitled "Under which Democracy?" says:—

> Democracy must be transformed to a religion of the Infinite, or it will pass like any other worn-out symbol. The democracy which would found itself on universal justice, in a communion of services rendered to the weak by the strong, is Christian by nature, and never can disguise its pedigree. But, if not in one form then in another, the people must become a Church, or they will not establish their New Republic.

Major Baden Powell predicts that as "aerial navigation by means of machines on the aeroplane principle ought, despite what is often said to the contrary, to be a very safe mode of locomotion," he expects that flying will become quite common in four years' time;

> and this implies that customs, in the main, will have to be abolished. Time may come, quite suddenly, when we shall find it impossible to collect dues. As soon as ever machines are constructed capable of crossing frontiers unobserved, a lucrative traffic will spring up, and from that moment the Customs receipts will rapidly dwindle to near zero.

Miss Helen Zimmern's article on "Fakes and Frauds" makes one feel that it is silly to buy any curio in the belief that it is antique.

THE NINETEENTH CENTURY AND AFTER.

THE March number is not distinguished by any paper of eminent value, though there are many of ordinary interest. Senator Pulsford's lesson in Free Trade *v.* Protection, from Australia, claims separate mention.

Mr. W. H. Mallock applauds Karl Marx as far superior to the orthodox economists, but points out that Marx does not explain why in capitalism, as in feudalism and in slavery, the produce of the many is at the disposal of the few. Mr. Mallock finds the dynamic element of capitalism in the division of energy by which the highest industrial efficiencies lend themselves in the form of direction to the minds and hands of the general mass of labourers. Mr. Mallock seemingly can never forget that (in his own opinion) he has discovered "Ability."

Professor Vambery, while hopeful of the future of Constitutional Turkey, reminds us of the difficulties. "The pious Moslem must strictly adhere to all the precepts of the Koran and the Sunna in all the phases and points of his daily life." A Mussulman who wore a hat would be declared an infidel.

Revisiting India after many years Lt.-Col. C. F. Massy finds the unrest has not touched the masses. He admits we are not loved; only preferred to Russian or Japanese, or even independent feudatories. He advises we open one quarter of the higher posts now monopolised by members of the Civil Service, to nominees from good and loyal families.

Rev. Archibald Fleming, writing on Scottish Orders and Reunion, advises, as a first step, mutual recognition by Episcopal and Presbyterian Churches. "We hold that all our Presbyters are Bishops": and Episcopalian ordinations—are they not in practice performed by Presbyters with the Bishops?

Lady Frederick Cavendish suggests as a way out of the education difficulty that each school area should decide by popular local vote for a period of ten years whether the school shall be "council or denominational."

Lieutenant-Colonel Pollock thinks we have an excellent army organisation given us by Mr. Haldane, and are likely to obtain the necessary *personnel*, thanks to "a theatrical stimulant"; but the making or marring of the force depends on the training of the recruit. He would allow the colonel to get and keep his regiment by any means he likes, enlisting poachers if he will.

Ian Malcolm laments that for want of the Coercion Act Ireland is *in extremis*. Sir Edward Sullivan defends Shakespearian authorship against Baconian defamers. Mrs. J. R. Green vigorously rebuts Mr. Dunlop's criticism, who last month, it will be remembered, "talked down" to her like a very pompous but irate Don.

THE DUTCH REVIEWS.

THE Japanese come in for somewhat severe handling, in *Vragen des Tijds*, in connection with their doings in Korea. After having declared, several times in quick succession, that they greatly desired to maintain the independence of Korea, having practically waged war with both China and Russia on that account, the Japanese, says the writer of this article, are now adopting all kinds of devices to crush the Koreans and deprive the people of their national independence and individual members of that nation of their personal property.

In the same Review is a long article on the milk supply and the investigations carried on for the purpose of ascertaining the conditions under which the cows live and the milk is obtained and delivered. The hygiene of cow-sheds, the drinking water given to the animals, and the cleanliness in body and clothing of those who come in contact with the animals and the milk, are among the subjects of inquiry.

Onze Eeuw devotes two of its three chief contributions to Frenchmen. Those natives of Gaul were of very different dispositions, one being Gaston Boissier (who died last year) and the other François Villon, the father of French poetry. Both articles form interesting reading. Gaston Boissier wrote of the ancient Romans. The names of his books are a sufficient guide to the nature of his writings. There is "The End of Paganism," and then "Cicero and His Friends," with "Opposition under the Cæsars," and others. As for Villon, in order to judge him correctly one must think of the times in which he lived, and remember the poetry rather than the life of the individual.

The work of Dutch explorers in New Guinea is dealt with in *De Gids*. Much has been done of late, we are told, to overcome in an amicable way the hostility of the Papuans, and to open the country; the amicable method is better than war for this purpose, opines the writer. There is so much beautiful country in New Guinea that it will ultimately become, for those living in Asia and Australia, something of a Switzerland and a Tyrol. Visitors can have snow-capped mountains and lovely scenery in the valleys; they can find new plants if they are botanically or horticulturally inclined, and, when once they have shown the natives that they are friends, they will find the Papuans pleasant and well-disposed. All this is, of course, quite apart from the importance of extending the usefulness of a colony. In another article we have a sketch of the progress made in the Philippines since Mr. Taft made his Report some years ago. The Americans, says the writer, have done more in ten years than the Dutch have done in some of their colonies during three centuries; it is true that the conditions have been materially improved in a very short space of time, yet it must be borne in mind that we are in the twentieth century, and that we move much more quickly than our forefathers were wont to do.

THE ITALIAN REVIEWS.

LONG articles on the earthquake and its consequences are to be found in practically all the Italian reviews for February. The weight of the calamity is making itself felt more and more as time goes on, and men of every political party are anxiously debating how Italy is to carry this new and heavy burden, and how the many complicated problems involved are to be dealt with. The union and co operation called forth by the disaster in the first few days seem to be at an end, and a period of somewhat bitter recrimination has in. Angry complaints are forthcoming of the utter paralysis of all administrative departments in the afflicted provinces, and especially of the railways, and of the oppressive amount of red-tape which has hampered all relief work. The disposal of the orphan and destitute children has excited violent controversy, and the best opinion seems now unanimous in demanding that the children shall be kept as far as possible in Sicily and Calabria, and not, as at first suggested, distributed throughout the peninsula.

The Deputy, E. Pantano, writing in the *Rassegna Contemporanea*, takes a gloomy view of the situation, especially as regards finance. Where is the necessary money to come from? Among practical measures he suggests that Messina should be declared a free port and immense docks constructed on the site of the ruined town.

Another Deputy, F. Guicciardini, discusses in the *Nuova Antologia* the reconstruction of buildings, and shows conclusively that wooden houses only should be built, or at least houses with their roofs supported by wooden beams. Stone, brick and plaster houses have been the main causes of the appalling loss of life, and the authorities should refuse to allow any of the cracked and partly fallen houses to be patched up. The author demands the passing of a stringent and scientific building act for the earthquake zone, a precaution which was unhappily neglected after the earthquake of 1905.

The *Civiltà Cattolica* deplores the sectarian difficulties that have broken out over the education of the hundreds of orphan children, and the efforts being made in certain quarters to deny them a Catholic education. It would appear that the Government have put every obstacle in the way of the Pope providing for any orphans, while a number have been handed over to the Waldensian churches in North Italy. The notoriously anti-Christian tendencies of some of the leading members of the *Patronato Regina Elena* have also given rise to anxiety. The *Civiltà* also publishes an interesting account of all that the Sicilian priests and religious orders, from the Archbishop of Messina downwards, have done on behalf of the sufferers.

The well-known Senator, P. Manassei, takes a more hopeful view in the *Rassegna Nazionale*. He sees in the fraternal sympathy so freely offered by all nations a testimony to "the moral and civil primacy conferred upon Italy by the consensus of all civilised nations," and he rhapsodises over the moral greatness displayed by Italy under so crushing a disaster. Another writer extols Mgr. Morabito's scheme of agricultural colonies for the destitute children near their former homes.

La Lettura publishes a number of excellent photographs of the ruined cities and of the works of art that have perished, besides a couple of scientific articles on earthquakes and seismography.

ESPAÑA MODERNA.

THIS Spanish review contains an article on the religious schism in the Philippines, which is noticed elsewhere. There is a continuation of the article on Murcia, this instalment dealing mainly with the customs of the people. The writer says that parents think ever so much more of a male child than of a female, and the idea seems to be derived from the Mussulman ancestry. Whilst the father and sons sit at the table to eat, the women either stand to have their meals or sit on the floor. Another curious custom is the method of celebrating the death of a child by dancing and music. Sr. Otis describes this ceremony as follows:—

> The neighbours begin to arrive about eight o'clock in the evening, the majority being young men and women, some of whom are provided with guitars and castanets. A lantern is hung in the doorway, and the young people, after having expressed their sympathy, and perhaps shed a few tears, seat themselves on chairs in a semicircle outside the house. Presently a guitar is heard and the verses of a song, and lastly dancing commences, all the girls taking part one after another. In this way they pass away several hours until the mothers of the girls end by going to sleep or retiring inside the house, quite abandoning the usual vigilance over their daughters, and from this time order and respect are thrown to the winds.

The writer then describes the custom of painting the face of a dead child. After dressing the small cold body in fancy style, all white as a symbol of purity, with a large wreath of white flowers on the head, the pious hand of the mother paints the yellowish cheeks a rosy colour, and to the blackening lips gives a thick coat of bright vermilion; thus with the extravagant wreath and painted face the poor child resembles a doll.

In this same number Sr. Ramon Peréz Requeijo gives a long and interesting account of Mexico, and his personal observations during his year's stay in that country. He says Mexico and Argentina stand at the head of all the modern Spanish-American nations, and if they continue progressing at the same rate they will soon rank amongst the first nations of the world. In extent Mexico comprises two million square kilometres, which is about four times the area of Spain; the population, according to the last census, is 13½ millions. As regards climate it is very varied, and can hardly be equalled in that respect by any other country. Situated more or less two-thirds in the torrid zone, and one-third in the north temperate zone, it might be expected to have two climates, namely, warm and temperate, instead of which it has four—warm, mild, cold and glacial. These variations are usually to be found at different altitudes.

THE NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW.

THE *North American Review* for February is almost exclusively devoted to topics of American interest. Among those dealing with subjects outside the United States may be mentioned Mr. Midzuno, who describes Japan's crusade against the use of opium. After explaining the measures adopted in Formosa, he says :—

It may fairly be expected that within twenty years this new insular possession of Japan will be destitute of opium-smokers. Such encouraging facts as the statistics present strongly confirm the wisdom of adopting a policy of gradual prohibition instead of an absolute and an acute withdrawal, so long as the control thereof rests with an effective administration.

The Duchess of Marlborough continues her interesting series of papers on the position of women, which are based apparently upon a diligent study of the writings of Professor Donaldson. Mr. R. P. Porter, the American correspondent of the *Times*, writes on the future of the American Tariff. Mr. A. Holber puts in a plea for the American artist, who at present has not a living chance with his European competitor. Dr. Hamilton denounces modern Religio-Medical movements.

THE new illustrated magazine, *La Bela Mondo* (annual subscription 6s.), is a pleasure to look at and to touch.

THE WESTMINSTER REVIEW.

THE *Westminster Review* for March is a capital number. Sir Charles Bright defends the Cable Companies. Mr. Owen Balmforth discourses on Municipal Government. Mr. Loscombe questions the possibility of re-peopling the country. Mr. F. H. Barron writes on the Disturbances in Bengal. He says :—

What is to be feared is that the Zemindari interest may be driven into the party of disorder, if there is any attempt to increase the power of the police. Moreover, the police staff would probably pierce the hand that would lean on it. The force would be liable to bribery, intimidation, and seduction; and when they had been completely discredited, the Government would be in an awkward predicament. They should not, therefore, be set too hard a task. Could not District Councils be formed out of an electorate consisting of "full Zemindars, representative sharers, and village headmen, and could not such councils then be used to supply delegates to a Provincial Assembly, and so a real liberal constitution be granted to the premier province of India?

The Century.

THE March number is chiefly of American interest, being concerned with reminiscences of President Hayes at the White House, sketches of President-elect Taft, and a survey of "Our President out of doors." Mr. F. W. Skinner describes how the foundations of the sky-scrapers are made. Mr. G. H. Porter urges that the U.S. Government should own its own embassies, and so not restrict the calling of Ambassador to men of great wealth. Fiction is plentiful, as usual.

The Dramatic Revival in Great Britain.

"JULIUS CÆSAR," BY THE SOMPTING PLAYERS.

THE most notable event of last month in the Revival of the Drama was the production at Worthing Theatre of "Julius Cæsar" by the Sompting Village Players. My daughter has written the following report of the performance :—

I have just returned from witnessing a unique dramatic performance given at the Worthing Theatre. It was in every sense remarkable and noteworthy, and full of encouragement to those who are labouring for Dramatic Revival.

"Julius Cæsar," as acted by the labouring men of the little village of Sompting, in Sussex, was certainly one of the most interesting performances of that play I have ever seen. As I sat watching these men, who all day had been labouring at farm work, carpentering or gardening, I could not help feeling that this must nearly approach the manner in which the play first saw the light in Shakespeare's day. From beginning to end the men acted with earnestness and zeal. They spoke their words in a manner which showed how thoroughly they understood the meaning of what they were saying.

Starting from Act II., they went steadily through the play, omitting only the scenes with Portia and Calphurnia, as they decided to have no women in the cast. Absolutely word-perfect, they acted easily and naturally, as though it was a part of their ordinary day's work, ready for cues on the instant, taking their time over the business, and not in the least put out by the crowds eagerly watching them. Antony, who in daily life is a farm labourer, was most impressive as he mourned over Cæsar's body, and again in the Forum scene, when he was splendidly helped by the citizens, whose clamour was most realistic—much more so than that made by many an ordinary stage crowd. Brutus looked splendid in his armour, and had well thought out the character he was portraying. But to speak of all the characters separately would take too long; though one character does not deserve it more than another, each, from Antony to the man with but a line or two to say, acting with the same spirit and zest.

More interesting even than the play itself were the opportunities I had of talking to the men themselves.

They told me with pride of the day that Mr. F. R. Benson spent rehearsing them, "and fell on the floor himself several times that we might die all right." I am certain had Mr. Benson been able to see the final result he would feel amply repaid for the time spent in their midst.

Some two years ago I wrote an account of the village school at Sompting, describing the manner in which the children were taught to act their lessons, and what a splendid system this had been proved to be. It is to Miss Johnson, the village schoolmistress, that the Sompting people owe the discovery of the dramatic key which has enabled them to unlock the treasure house of their own imagination. As the parents watched the children act over again at home what they had been taught at school, they became interested, and, obtaining books, read up history and other subjects. Last year the women of the village acted with great success a play written by one of themselves. The men, not to be outdone, met together and decided to give a musical and dramatic entertainment. This, however, did not quite satisfy them, and they eventually agreed to try a few scenes from "Julius Cæsar." They saw Mr. Benson and his company in the play at Brighton, and came back full of enthusiasm. Amongst themselves they arranged which scenes to play and which to omit, and cast the parts by ballot. During the long winter evenings they learnt and rehearsed their parts in the little village schoolroom, helped by Miss Johnson. In this way the long, dull winter evenings were filled with interest. The men speak with delight of those cosy evenings in the village school when they "worked" and "played." What a splendid substitute to sitting, perhaps the whole evening, in the village pub. drinking and wasting time!

"Won't you feel dull now it is all over?" I asked one of them. "Oh, no, miss!" he replied, "we are going to study 'Henry V.' next, and we mean to meet once a month to keep it up during the summer."

Hildenboro' and Grasmere led the way, and now Sompting has followed their lead. May these not augur a dramatic revival throughout the villages of England?

ESTELLE W. STEAD.

THE LONDON CHURCH PAGEANT.

Mr. Lascelles, who oscillates like a pendulum between the old world and the new, is now back in London, hard at work organizing the Church Pageant which is to be performed in Fulham Palace grounds from June 10th to 16th. The Pageant is divided into two parts, so that to see it as a whole you must attend both the afternoon and evening performances. Seats are to be provided for 6,500 spectators, so that only 78,000 tickets are printed. They are already being disposed of at from 3s. to 21s. each. Before June they will be at a premium. The following are the episodes of the Pageant, which will be represented by about 4,000 performers:—

PART I., AT 3 P.M.

Prelude—Founders of the Church.
1. Publication of the Edict of Constantine, 313.
2. Foundation of Iona by Columba, 563.
3. Augustine's arrival in Britain, 597.
4. Aidan and Oswald at Bamburgh, *c.* 635.
5. Dunstan and the Monks, 964.
6. Anointing of William I., 1066.
7. Thomas of Canterbury's Return and Death, 1170.
8. The granting of the Great Charter, 1215.
9. Foundation of the Cathedral Church of New Sarum, 1220.
10. Miracle Play and Pilgrimage Scene, *c.* 1350.

PART II., AT 8 P.M.

1. Trial of Wycliffe, 1377.
2. Funeral Procession of Henry V., 1422.
3. Founding of King's College, Cambridge, *c.* 1440.
4. Suppression of Monasteries and Pilgrimage of Grace, 1536.
5. Coronation Procession of Edward VI., 1547.
6. Consecration of Parker, 1559.
7. Translators presenting Bible to James I., 1611.
8. Laud's Execution, 1645.
9. The Acquittal of the Seven Bishops, 1688.

Finale—"Throughout all the World."

TE DEUM.

THE PAGEANT AND THE DRAMA.

Mr. Stanley Gerald Dunn, writing with the pen of a future historian in the *Westminster Review* on "The Revival of Drama," says that the English people one fine day woke up and asked themselves the question:—

Why on earth have we been paying other people all this time to amuse us instead of amusing ourselves? Why have a paid class of actors at all, except as a class of experts for purposes of occasional reference? A new field was at once opened up. A nation always at heart dramatic suddenly discovered that it might not only look at drama, but act it itself! The idea was taken up with immense enthusiasm. There was ready at hand a healthy way of escape from the conventionalities of a complex civilisation whenever these became too galling. Imagine a bank clerk habitually clad in the garb of his city servitude suddenly aroused to the sheer pleasure of being for a time at least the young King Henry, with the youth and strength of England at his back, or of playing the fool as an Elizabethan clown! For it was a notable feature of that revival that men went back to Shakespeare and the dramatists who had dealt with human nature at first hand, and meddled little with the "local colours," or "atmospheres," so fashionable in later times.

Then came pageantry, with its appeal to the past, not yet forgotten in the patriotism of the people. Whole towns turned out to act over again the history of their familiar surroundings; local rivalry, ever a healthy sign of true national life, sprang up again in connection with these annual pageants. The gravest and most pompous of personages had to confess to the excitement and fascination of the great game; the dreariest and most commonplace of lives were stung by the romance of it; the narrowest of minds were touched as it were by a breath from the wide spaces of life, and felt the grandeur and the breadth of it as they had never dreamed before. And not only did this pageantry furnish a direct outlet for the sense of drama in the individual, and that capacity for acting which every man feels, but it gave just the impulse that was wanting to the drama of the stage

HEALING AND HEALERS—Concluded.

THE first part of this article appeared in our February number. It dealt with Father John of Cronstadt and Mr. Rawson of London.

III.—CHRISTIAN SCIENTISTS.

I now come to the Christian Scientists proper, whose names have not been removed from the Mother Church, and who are in full communion with the Christian Scientist body. The Christian Scientists meet at various places in London, but for the present it is sufficient to mention the Wednesday evening meetings at Portman Rooms, Baker Street. The testimonies which are given there are enough to stagger the most credulous. The inquirer will find educated men and women, who appear to be clothed and in their right minds, calmly setting forth experiences which have occurred to themselves or to their friends that are simply amazing.

A STORY OF A STEED.

Last month, for instance, a marvellous story was told by the owner of a hunter. This horse, which was a favourite, had fallen ill. Expert veterinary surgeons had been called in who had done their utmost to effect a cure. They expressed themselves baffled. After careful examination of the horse it was declared that nothing could be done but to put it to an immediate and painless death. Its owner, however, hesitated, and as a last resource was persuaded to try Christian Science treatment, with the result that in a few days the owner was riding his horse in the hunting field as if it had never been ill! Mark Twain, when writing of Christian Science, said he drew the line at horses, but the Christian Scientists know no limit to the efficacy of their magic formulæ. They maintain that organic diseases yield as easily to their treatment as do those maladies of the nervous system.

MODERN MIRACLES.

To the November number of the *Arena*, Mr. B. O. Flower contributes an article entitled "Christian Science and Organic Disease," in which he records some amazing cases, to which brief reference may be made here. He asserts that the Christian Science Committee in New York has a record of 11,244 cures that have been wrought by Christian Science in the New York State. Some of these cures have been of cases which have been diagnosed by the faculty as cancer, tuberculosis of the lungs, Bright's disease, and so forth. He specially calls attention to the evidence of Dr. Wilding, a member of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, and a member of the British Medical Association, whose father, after suffering for many years from an internal trouble, had been completely healed in a few days of Christian Science treatment. The report of this healing filled Dr. Wilding with a bitter feeling of resentment that such a cure could be made by Christian Science. But when he found that his daughter, who was going headlong to the grave with tuberculosis in both hip joints, and consumption of the lungs, and had wasted down in eight years to less than thirty pounds, was completely cured by Christian Science, he began to feel there was something in it.

THE PATIENTS OF DR. WILDING.

Dr. Wilding then submitted various patients of his own to the treatment. One was a young man who suffered for two years from traumatic disease of the knee joint. The surgeons in the infirmary declared that nothing could be done but to excise the whole joint. The patient, however, consulted a Christian Science practitioner, and was absolutely healed there and then. Another patient who had been for over six years suffering from organic disease of the valves of the heart was steadily growing worse. The last attack had nearly proved fatal. One day the patient was going about in a bath chair, a Christian Science healer was called in, and the next day she was working hard from early morning in her own cottage home, and has remained well ever since. Another patient of his had suffered for twenty years from a form of paralysis, had been completely paralysed in the lower limbs, and partially in the arms. A healer was called in, and the woman, who had never been able to move her legs for eight years, got up and walked, and in two or three days was walking about perfectly well. So much for the evidence of an English doctor.

THE EVIDENCE OF DR. BURTON.

An American doctor, Dr. Edmund F. Burton, who was instructor in the Rush Medical College of Chicago, Illinois, was compelled to leave Chicago on account of the rapid progress of tuberculosis in his lungs. His life was despaired of, his stomach refused to assimilate food, and he suffered a complete nervous breakdown. He lay unconscious for forty-eight hours, and physicians in consultation declared that he was incurable, and that he could not possibly live more than a few days or six weeks. A Christian Science healer was called in and remained with him for three hours. The next day he had made such a recovery that he drove his automobile for two hours without weariness of any kind, and within ten days he was perfectly well, and has remained in robust health ever since. The case of his wife was even more marvellous. She broke her arm, and there was a fracture of the olecranum and backward dislocation of the elbow joint. Two other doctors beside himself made a careful diagnosis of the broken arm. It was the wife's desire that the healing should be left to Christian Science, and in thirty hours there was no sign of dislocation or fracture. But there is no end to such marvels.

RAISING THE DEAD.

A woman in Los Angeles not only was suffering from cancer in the stomach, but was actually believed by two nurses who had charge of her to have died, and the head nurse of the hospital notified her death to her brother. He refused to believe it, and applied Christian Science treatment, and in a few days she left the hospital in perfect health.

Christian Science healing does not always operate instantaneously. Mr. Flower publishes the story of the case of a woman who had been utterly unable to eat or sleep for several days. Three Christian Scientists treated her, and she appeared to rest easier, and was not suffering so much pain; but the third night after receiving Christian Science treatment she apparently died, and the head nurse recorded the fact that she had died. Then her brother, placing his hands on each side of her head, called her by her name, "Mary," and she opened her eyes, breathed a natural breath, and then fell asleep the first time since she had been in hospital. In a few days she had completely recovered.

What are we to think of such things? Frankly, the evidence which convinces Mr. Podmore ought to be sufficient to convince anybody; but if these things are so, where are we, and what are we to think of it all?

IV.—MAGNETIC HEALING BY SPIRIT AGENCY.

Mr. W. H. Edwards, who is a magnetic healer, claims that he effects all his cures by the direct help of his spirit friends. After describing a series of astonishing cures, he says:—

In all these cases, and scores of others, I have always been taken possession of by an outside physical force which dominated my own strength and guided my will. I was easily able to see clairvoyantly what to do and the nature of the malady. Simple remedies are the most effective, and the main object of the demonstration of the spirit force is to keep the faith in *God's Providence*.

Mr. Edwards—whose present address is Terra Nova, Wynell Road, Forest Hill—kindly offered to undertake the healing of a number of test cases at my office. Here is one of the more recent cases in which Mr. Edwards' gifts, or his spirit friends, seem to have been very beneficial to his patient:—

On June 22nd, 1903, I received a telegram from Mr. Barr Robertson, hon. secretary Bi-Metallic League and director of the Mexican State Railway, asking me to come at once to the National Liberal Club, Whitehall. The following is the extract from my diary under the above date:—

"Called to see Mr. Jamieson (Anglo-Indian), residing at the club. Fracture of radius of right arm, sprained wrist and thumb, due to being knocked down and run over by cab. Treated at Charing Cross Hospital, where arm was set. Arm in splints three weeks. Photographed by Röntgen rays one week after being set, showing the fracture not properly set. When I called he had never been able to use the hand. Dr. Matthews, in consultation with Dr. Davis, of Portland Place, who photographed the arm, declined to disturb setting as being dangerous from probable erysipelas and mortification. Massage had been used every day for three weeks under their supervision. Fingers puffed out and lifeless, everything having to be done with the left hand. By steady magnetic passes I released the inflammation; then by a steady influx of magnetic force I revived the limb, and applied a cold water surgical bandage. He then with the injured arm brushed his hair before me.

"On the second day I forced the fractured radius into its proper setting, when the pain ceased, and by Saturday all need of further treatment ceased."

I introduced Mr. Edwards to Mr. Rawson, but the two healers did not benefit each other.

Mr. W. H. Edwards contributes a very interesting article to the *Occult Review* for March on "Magnetism *versus* Hypnotism." He says:—

The writer of this article was lately refused an advertisement in the *Daily Telegraph*, although he could produce such credentials as restoring four cases of blindness, one of which was investigated by the Psychical Research Society under the auspices of Mr. F. W. H. Myers in December, 1896, and who was fully satisfied as to the power he possessed over fevers and nervous collapse. The case of the blindness of Harold Broom was simply that he was certified by the London Ophthalmic Hospital as being totally blind in one eye—having never received sight from birth in the right eye—and was almost blind with the other. When discharged from the hospital he was given three weeks to become totally blind in both eyes. Knowing the parents to be both neurotics, I concluded sufficient aura had not been created during gestation, and that it was possible with the power I held, of infusing magnetism in the optic nerves, the retina, iris, and sclerotic coat, to induce the sight. I therefore undertook the case, by powerful magnetisation of the brain and the parts named. As the result I restored his sight.

V.—"THE ONE HEALER."

The Society of Emmanuel, of which Mr. J. M. Hickson is President, and Lady Mosley Hon. Treasurer, and whose address is 22, Talbot Square, Hyde Park, W., dissents from both Christian Scientists and Magnetic Healers. Mr. Hickson in reply to my inquiry wrote me:—

My work is not in any way on the lines of Christian Science, mental therapeutics, suggestion, or so-called faith healing, inasmuch as my standpoint is that there is only One Healer, our Lord Jesus Christ, and that He works directly through the instruments to whom He has entrusted the Gift.

Mr. Hickson discovered his possession of this gift by chance in his childhood:—

At the age of thirteen I was led by some intuitive feeling to place my hand on a cousin's face; she was suffering from acute neuralgia, and immediate relief followed. This gave me a strong desire to try this gift on others, in such cases as chilblains, lumbago, St. Vitus' dance, etc. It soon became apparent to my mother and others of my family, and I also had a firm inner conviction that it was some special power from God which I possessed, and so from nervous complaints and slight troubles I tried my power on chronic and more serious diseases, and these were cured.

I do not claim to possess this power of myself—only that I am a channel through which the life-giving energy flows, which I receive by faith, and pass on to those who need it, by the laying on of hands and prayer.

My object is to produce a spiritual relation, and hence a harmony, between mind and body, and to effect a radical cure through Divine agency, in conjunction with the action of physical healing.

I do not run contrary to medical science; in fact I work in conjunction with many doctors, and look forward to the time when those in the profession who possess the gift will supple-

ment their efforts with spiritual healing, and thus solve many problems which medicine alone cannot touch—especially in nervous and mental disorders.

During the whole of the time since I first discovered that I had this gift I have used it whenever the opportunity came. But about eight years ago I was called in by a medical man to try and help in a very severe case of an officer who was wounded in the Boer War. In this case immediate relief was given, and the doctor then advised me to devote my life to this work. This I was eventually induced to do.

In the last report we are told of a priest who suffered from cancer in the bowels, and was told by his physician that he had not nine months to live, and is now quite well; of a lady's-maid, suffering from rupture, who, after three visits, recovered her health; to say nothing of cures of valvular heart trouble, rheumatoid arthritis, locomotor ataxy, and dipsomania.

Mr. Hickson has sent me a list of typical cases, from which I only quote one, the case of a civil engineer :—

He fell and injured the patella, which had previously been broken four times. Two doctors expressed the opinion that he would never have full use of knee again. It was very painful and quite callous at the time of first treatment by prayer, but in twenty minutes he was able to bend it without help, the following day to walk about the house, and after four visits to resume ordinary duties.

Mr. Hickson casts out devils, heals the sick, and does everything short of raising the dead. But Dr. Blackwell claims to have done that also, although of course his case, although certified as dead, was not really quite dead, as was probably the case in the miracle where Christ said, "She is not dead, but sleepeth."

What are we to think of these things?

VI.—EXPLANATIONS.

According to Dr. Schofield, who writes in the *Contemporary Review*, "On Spiritual Healing"—

In a state of nature little medicine and few doctors are needed. The healing power of Nature is enough. Faith, however, can stimulate this latent power amazingly; and as is shown in hysteria when the power is disordered, it is capable of doing almost anything with the body, producing high temperature, blisters, tumours, and other affections at will. So also with regard to cures: when this process is sufficiently energised by faith, not only functional diseases can be removed, but material objects, such as warts and varicose veins, can be made to disappear. Without this *vis meticatrix naturæ* no cure is possible; the bones won't knit, the sores won't heal, while the germs kill, and diseases end fatally; but with it, energised by faith, it is difficult to set a limit to the power of cure.

In the *North American Review* for February, Dr. Allen McLane Hamilton makes an attack upon healers of the non-professional variety, and specially signals out for condemnation the good people of the Emmanuel Church, Boston. Dr. Hamilton says :—

The object of the Emmanuelist is the cure of disease by hypnotism, suggestion without hypnosis; or by the use of educational or reasoning methods. It is easily seen how disreputable a method this may become in the hands of designing persons, or how the Emmanuelist may unconsciously play into the hands of a scheming doctor of quackish methods, who may "prepare" the patient for the ministrations of the clergyman, making the excuse that he is not quite ready for the clerical treatment proper—until he has extracted a fat fee. All writers upon Psychiatry are united in the belief that hypnotism is harmful, if not dangerous, in the hands of inexperienced persons.

But so long as mortal men are really healed, so long will they go to the Healers, let the doctors say what they will.

Cinematograph in Colour.

MR. F. A. TALBOT tells in the *World's Work* of the development of stereoscopic and moving pictures in natural colour. He says :—

Within the next few weeks there will be demonstrated in London a camera and projecting apparatus whereby all the incidents of life, recorded and reproduced at will upon the screen in the full and faithful gorgeousness of their natural colours, can be achieved. Such a development cannot fail to mark a revolution in animated picture circles, and the ordinary black-and-white system will be superseded as completely by the chromo-cinematograph as the magic-lantern of our childhood has been displaced by the bioscope.

The basis of the Friese-Greene system is thus stated :

In the camera the colour-rays of the object become broken up into their respective units by means of screens or colour-filters, representing the three foregoing primary colours.

French v. German Troops.

IN the *United Service Magazine* Mr. Howard Hensman contributes a very interesting comparison between the French and German manœuvres of 1908—an article which is sufficiently non-technical for anyone to understand. On the whole, he would, I infer, prefer the French army if he were allowed to choose between them. The German army is too mechanical, too stiff, and too automatic; the French army is much more flexible. Its soldiers obey, but not mechanically. Moreover, Germany still seems to rely on the tactics which succeeded in 1870–71, while France fully realises that every army must move with the times. The French soldiers march wonderfully, far better than the Germans, who seem to rely on sheer weight of numbers, and, in a war, would probably reck as little of human life as did the Japanese.

Queen Victoria's Marriage.

HER agitation was only discoverable in the marble paleness of her brow and the shaking of the orange flowers. The Prince is very handsome and graceful, and looks older than he is by several years. Both made the responses very audibly, but her tones, though soft and low, were yet so perfectly distinct that everyone in the chapel heard her vow to love, honour, and obey; and when he promised to love and cherish her, she turned her sweet and innocent looks upon him with an expression that brought tears into every eye that saw it. There was another part of the ceremony that touched me deeply, when she threw herself on her knees at the foot of the altar as if her whole soul was in the petition she was offering up for a blessing.—"Letters of an American Minister's Wife," in the *Century*.

The Book of the Month.

THE M.P. FOR RUSSIA.*

I HAVE often maintained that the best person to write a review of certain books is the author himself. He knows as a rule a great deal more of the subject than any ordinary reviewer, and if it may be objected that his judgment could hardly be regarded as impartial, it must also be admitted that he knows better than anyone else how far short his work has fallen of his ideal. To give an exposition of the aim and contents of the book he is much better qualified than anyone else, and as the reader is usually much more anxious to know what it is all about and what the author is driving at than to read a judicial summing up of its merits and demerits, I think a very good case can be made out for an author reviewing his own books, always provided that it is done openly over his own signature. For in that case the door would be shut in advance against any exaggerated eulogy of the author by the reviewer. So without further preamble I am going to act upon my own doctrine and set about reviewing "The M.P. for Russia," a work of which I am as much the author as the editor.

Madame Olga Novikoff, 1909.

WHAT IS IT ALL ABOUT?

Let me begin by answering the question, What's it all about? by saying that it is all about Madame Olga Novikoff, the well-known Russian lady diplomatist, apostle and journalist, who holds the most distinguished place occupied by any woman, not a queen or an empress, at present living on this planet. And in reply to the further question, What the author is driving at? I reply that my single aim in the whole of these two volumes is to present Madame Novikoff to the public as she has been and as she is, to place her in her proper setting as the trusted friend and adviser of many of the most brilliant and most powerful statesmen and leaders in thought and action in modern Europe, and, above all, to render to her a tardy meed of justice in setting forth the leading part which she has played for the last thirty years in bringing about that fraternal *rapprochement* between Russia and England which was proclaimed to the world at the meeting of the King and Emperor at Reval.

WHAT IT CONTAINS.

I have sought to accomplish this threefold task by the copious use of Madame Novikoff's vast stores of letters which notable and interesting men and women have found pleasure in writing to her ever since the early sixties, by extracts from her own letters to me, which began in 1877, and by drawing liberally upon her own reminiscences, written and unwritten. And as for the last thirty years we have worked together in loyal comradeship to promote the great cause of Anglo-Russian friendship, I have been able copiously to supplement Madame Novikoff's reminiscences by my own memories and records of our joint campaign. I am well aware of my many shortcomings, especially in the matter of familiarity with half-a-dozen foreign languages, which to a certain extent disqualify me from undertaking such a task. I am afraid I must admit that, notwithstanding these defects, I am the only man who could bring to the editing of these memorials sufficient personal knowledge at first hand of the subject dealt with. Having said so much by way of introduction, I will now proceed without more ado to give the reader a *précis*, with extracts, of the book as it lies before me.

WHY "THE M.P. FOR RUSSIA."

Whenever conversation flagged in a London drawing-room at the end of the seventies there was no more infallible specific than to mention the name of Madame Olga Novikoff. Who was she, what was she doing, why was she in London? "She is the M.P. for Russia in London," said Lord Beaconsfield, and

* "Reminiscences and Correspondence of Madame Olga Novikoff. Edited by W. T. Stead. 2 volumes, 60 portraits. Andrew Melrose. 30s.

the witty Jew for once spoke the truth. But the Russia she represented was not Russia official, but Russia national, and her fidelity to her Moscovite constituents often brought her into sharp antagonism with those highly-placed Tchinovniks who speak in the name and with the authority of the Russian Government.

HER SERVICES TO RUSSIA.

Foreign Ministers come and Foreign Ministers go; but Madame Novikoff, whether working with them or against them, has never lost the unofficial but influential position from which she was able to render better service to her country than them all. According to the late Sir E. Ashmead-Bartlett, the most thorough-going Russophobist of our times, Madame Novikoff strengthened Russia more in the crisis 1876-78 than if she had equipped an army corps of one hundred thousand men. And Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Froude, Mr. Freeman, and Mr. Carlyle agreed in ascribing to her no small share in saving Great Britain from the immeasurable guilt of an unjust war. From the time of the Polish insurrection of 1863, when she was in constant correspondence with Lord Napier and Ettrick, then British Ambassador in St. Petersburg, down to 1908, when Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman dined out for the last time in his life at her house, Madame Novikoff has been in close and constant touch not merely with the Governments of two great Empires, but what is still more remarkable, with the leading representatives of two nationalities.

EGERIA OF MUSCOVY.

Of late years, when the harvest of her earlier labours was ripening, Madame Novikoff has not been so vividly present to the popular imagination as she was in the old days of storm and stress, when she was regarded as a mysterious enchantress from Moscow, a kind of Russian Lorelei, whose melodious voice lured British statesmen to destruction. Yet all her life long men have fallen in love with her and admired her, but have never compromised her; for even the tongue of lawless scandal never meddled with her good name.

Her correspondence and her reminiscences for the first time will enable a wider public than the select *habitués* of her *salon* to realise the influence and the charm that has been exerted so silently and yet so potently by the presence of a gracious, generous, sympathetic woman, residing alternately in Moscow and in London. It is no easy task to preserve in black and white a faithful picture of a spirit so antithetically mixed. Autocratic in theory, aristocratic by heredity, and democratic by sympathy, the friend and ally of Pobedonostzeff and of Gladstone, with all the charm and sweetness and fascination of a woman she combined the resolution and the strength of a man. A complex character, she was so complex that no two of her friends agreed exactly in their estimate. As for her enemies, they were never able to agree as to why she deserved condemnation. But those who loved her—and they included all who knew her intimately—were aware that below all these corruscating, conflicting rays which confused and dazzled the observer there was a massive foundation of good temper, born of a warm heart and the quick, intuitive sympathy of a nature instinctively responsive to every lofty emotion and every generous ideal.

AN EARLY LOVE STORY.

To have been the political and personal confidante of many of the most distinguished men of her time, and to have avoided all the pitfalls by which the famous Princess Lieven tarnished her fair fame may be cynically explained by the maxim that there is safety in numbers. It would be more just to attribute it to her genius for friendship, the universality of her sympathy, and her supreme devotion to the cause which for her was consecrated by her passionate love for her brother, who sacrificed his life for the Slavonic cause. But she had one love affair when a young girl:—

When on the verge of sweet sixteen, she experienced the first and, so far as I have been able to ascertain, the only romantic episode in her early life. It came to her, as it comes to most young people of her temperament, through the gate of pity. She studied the history of German philosophy with an old German professor, very learned, very plain, and very wretched. An intense compassion sprang up in her heart for the lonely old teacher. She felt deeply for his poverty, his loneliness, and she thought how much he was in need of someone's help, companionship, and affection. The thought flashed across her brain, "If I married him, how comfortable I could make him, and how happy he would be." To please him, to kindle in him some regard for her, became her determined wish. One day she took special pains to interest him in her essay on Hegel and his following. The work was not an easy one, and she hoped to be appreciated and rewarded by her teacher's sympathy. The old man read her manuscript carefully, seemed pleased, and smiled; but then, alas! he said: "Ach Gott, if only you had been a boy, what a good professor of philosophy you would make!" That was all he said, and thus ended the romantic episode.

HER FAMILY.

Madame Novikoff, born Olga Kiréeff, was the only daughter of a noble family in Moscow. Her mother was a beauty who inspired the muse of Pushkin and the admiration of many others. Her father was a man devoted both to the Orthodox Church and to the Slavonic cause. W. E. Baxter, of Dundee, afterwards a member of the Gladstone Administration, was her father's tutor, and both father and mother were so familiar with English that they wrote all their love letters in that language. Before Olga Kiréeff was in her teens she could speak Russian, English, French and German. When she was twenty years old she married Colonel afterwards General Ivan Novikoff, brother of the well-known Eugene Novikoff, Russian Ambassador at Vienna. Her only son, Alexander, or "Sasha," was born in 1862.

HER FIRST SALON.

It was in the *salon* of the Grand Duchess Helena, in the Michel Palace of St. Petersburg, that Madame Novikoff first began to gather round her a *coterie* of distinguished personages. Among the first members of the Novikoff group were Count Keyserling

of Dorpat University, Khalil Pasha the Turkish Ambassador, Rubinstein, Lord Napier and Ettrick, British Ambassador at St. Petersburg, Auerbach the novelist and disciple of Spinoza. Madame Novikoff heard much of Bismarck from Count Keyserling, but she never met the man of blood and iron, of whom, however, she tells a pleasant anecdote on the authority of Keyserling.

COUNT BEUST.

Madame Novikoff's first excursion into international politics took place at Vienna, where her brother-in-law was Ambassador. It was quite in the early days that she attracted the attention and made a lifelong friend of Count Beust, then Chancellor of Austria-Hungary, and afterwards Austrian-Hungarian Ambassador at London. Count Beust wrote verses in her honour, and continued to correspond with her in more or less unintelligible hieroglyphics "to be read with the heart rather than the eye" until the end of his life. He wrote to her in 1875:—

One may do what one pleases, but I cannot help it; I always was a Russian in my heart of hearts, even in my cradle days—to say nothing of still earlier times. — Sincerely yours,

BEUST.

It was probably only to her that he would have declared "j'étais toujours Russe dans l'âme, même au berceau." But that was one of the advantages of being Madame de Novikoff. She made everyone "Russe dans l'âme," and anxious to imagine that they had been born Russian in some previous incarnation.

The Tsar in State Robes.

HER FIRST VISIT TO ENGLAND.

It was not in Vienna but in London that Madame Novikoff was to find the true field for her diplomatic activity. Her first visit to this country was made in 1868, where she found a warm welcome from Lord Clarendon, who was about to take office for the fourth time as Foreign Secretary, and his brother, Mr. Charles Villiers, who was one of the first and one of the most constant of all her correspondents. One of the innumerable amusing stories with which these reminiscences abound describes how by acting as the good fairy in bringing together Charles Villiers and a wealthy lady to whom he had once been engaged to be married, Madame Novikoff was the means of securing to the old Parliamentarian a handsome fortune in his declining years.

HER ZEAL FOR THE OLD CATHOLICS.

It was not as a diplomatist but as a Greek Orthodox that Madame Novikoff began her work in England. Russia, in the eyes of the Slavophils, is more of a Church than a nation, and there was no break of gauge when from being a fervid champion of the Old Catholics she became the eloquent apostle of the Bulgarian emancipation. Her brother, Alexander Kiréeff, is one of the few notable Russians of our time who combine the religious zeal of a Christian apostle with the keen political intelligence of modern statesmen. He saw in the Old Catholic movement a possible instrument for weakening the Roman Schism and restoring the unity of Christendom on the basis of the first Seven Councils. Madame Novikoff accompanied her brother to the Conferences between the Anglican, Old Catholic and Greek Orthodox Churches, which were held in Bonn and elsewhere. She translated his pamphlet into English, and thus established her position as a representative of Eastern orthodoxy in the hearts of the leading Anglicans, who thirty years ago were much more zealous against the Papal usurpation than are their descendants of to-day. From this period dated her friendship with Dr. Döllinger, Professor Frohschammer, and other Old Catholics on the continent, which brought her into relations with Canon Liddon, Dean Church, Dr. Littledale and others of that ilk in this country.

HOW SHE MET MR. GLADSTONE.

The Old Catholic movement, with all the hopes and fears which it aroused in the seventies imme-

diately after the declaration of the dogma of infallibility, soon ceased to be a living issue in England. Its place was taken by a much more absorbing question, the struggle of the Slavs of the Balkans for deliverance from the Turkish yoke. Madame Novikoff first met Mr. Gladstone at a party given in 1874 at the Russian Embassy to the then Prince of Wales, now Edward VII. Baron Brunnow, then Ambassador, was a great friend of her mother's, and Madame Novikoff was invited to meet the *élite* of the English political world at the party in question. She was introduced at almost the same moment to Mr. Disraeli and to Mr. Gladstone. Mr. Disraeli she never met again; with Mr. Gladstone she began an acquaintance which ripened into a firm fighting alliance, the like of which, both for the courage and tenacity of the allies and the brilliant success which crowned their endeavours, is without a parallel or a precedent in English history. Neither of them dreamed at that first meeting at Chesham Place how useful each was to be to the other or how broad and deep was to be the mark which their co-operative efforts were to make on the history of the world.

W. T. Stead in 1909.

W. T. Stead in 1877.

NOW AND THEN.

TYNDALL AND KINGLAKE.

The foundation of this friendship was ecclesiastical and personal rather than political. They both regarded the Vatican decrees with abhorrence; they both hoped that by a judicious backing of the Old Catholic movement they might contribute to the reunion of Christendom by weakening the power of Giant Pope. It was not till two years later that the course of events in the East superadded a new and a far stronger element to the original foundation of their friendship. But before that evolution took place Madame Novikoff extended the range of her personal friendships among men of all creeds and of none. Conspicuous among the brilliant galaxy of her friends stood Professor Tyndall and Kinglake, the historian of the Crimean war. There are few things more beautiful and ideal in the literary and political history of our times than the tender, chivalrous, and almost romantic devotion of Mr. Kinglake to the Russian lady, whom he loved without jealousy and served with unselfish ardour to the very end. The extracts from his letters to Madame Novikoff will probably do more to preserve Kinglake's memory to future generations than his classic of the Crimean War. Her relations to Professor Tyndall were neither so close nor so constant, but here also there was a generous and unselfish affection on both sides—equally honourable and useful to both. Abraham Hayward was another of the sworn knights of her table round, who, like the others, was faithful to the last. Nothing is more remarkable about Madame Novikoff than the permanence of her friendships. Neither time, differences of opinion, alterations of circumstance in the least affected her friendships. Hence there grew up in time around her a curiously cosmopolitan *coterie* of statesmen, diplomatists, artists, ecclesiastics and men of letters, many of whom met nowhere save in her *salon*, but none of whom ever allowed their

personal antipathies to each other to interfere with their loyal devotion to Madame Novikoff and her cause.

FREEMAN AND FROUDE.

This capacity, if not for reconciling opposites but of attracting the most antipathetic spirits in a common friendship to herself, was most strikingly illustrated in the case of Freeman and Froude. I think it may safely be said that these two notable historians regarded each other with a comprehensive aversion, the like of which does not exist in our time. I do not know one solitary subject, social, personal, political or religious, on which they were in accord, save Madame Novikoff and her cause. On that point they were as one. Freeman never could quite forgive Froude for agreeing with him even on this one subject. Froude, he repeatedly declared, ought to have been on the side of the Turk. The man who eulogised "Flogging Fitzgerald" ought to have been in the camp of the friends of Chefket Pasha. But although he growled in his rough Saxon fashion at the strange bedfellow which the Eastern Question had given him, he did not break with Madame Novikoff because of her friendship with Froude. The correspondence of these two widely dissimilar men is among the most interesting features in the book.

General Skobeleff.

THE EASTERN QUESTION IN 1876.

The turning-point in Madame Novikoff's life was reached in 1876. Up to that time she had all unconsciously to herself been laying the foundations upon which her life-work was to stand. Recent events in the East give an extraordinary interest to the narrative of that exciting time. In 1875 the insurrection broke out in Herzegovina. In 1876 it spread to Bosnia, and later in the year the Bulgarians made a feeble and abortive effort to throw off the Turkish yoke. The Turks, impotent to crush the rising in the Bosnian uplands, made short and terrible work of the unfortunate Bulgarians. The thoroughness of their vengeance proved their own undoing, and it was the Turkish atrocities that freed Bulgaria. Servia and Montenegro, maddened by the spectacle of horror, declared war.

NICHOLAS KIRÉEFF.

Nicholas Kiréeff, Madame Novikoff's younger and most beloved brother, went to Belgrade as representative of the Moscow Slavonic Committee, under the Red Cross, to supply the Servians with ambulances and nurses, and medical and surgical necessaries. Soon after his arrival at Belgrade he saw that what the Servians needed was not so much surgeons as leaders After he fulfilled his mission for the Red Cross Society, feeling himself free, he disguised his identity under the name of Hadji Ghiray, and undertook to raise, train, and lead into battle a brigade of Servian peasants. He was a man of great personal charm, of imposing presence, of indomitable courage. He was also the godson of the Emperor Nicholas, an ex-officer of the Guards, and the representative of the best Russian society. Men flocked to his command, and he was soon hotly engaged in the forefront of the fight :—

Prince Gortschakoff.

For some days the European newspapers contained references in their telegrams from the seat of war to a mysterious and unknown officer, who, under the name of Hadji Ghiray, was doing great things in infusing a martial spirit into the troops under his command. His sister, who was then at Marienbad, was quite fascinated by the reports of the doings of this romantic and mysterious stranger, always the first in the front, and, like Skobeleff, clad in white. Her first care in the mornings was to peruse the tidings from the Balkans. One day in July she was thunderstruck by reading in all the papers the same laconic but terrible telegram : "Hadji Ghiray is killed. It is Nicholas Kireeff."

HOW HIS DEATH BROUGHT LIFE.

She was quite prostrated by the blow. In the darkness of that desolate hour she could not realise that this supreme misfortune was to contribute more than any other single accident to the triumph of the Slavonic cause and was to give her a means of appeal which was to be potent in paralysing the plans of Russia's enemies.

Madame Novikoff, when "the first dark day of nothingness" had passed and she recovered sufficiently from her stupor, wrote to all her English friends in terms of mingled reproach and appeal. This, she cried, is all England's doing. If Mr.

Disraeli had not broken up the European concert and backed up the Turks there had been no war and my brother had not died. All heard her cry of anguish with sympathy. But two of her correspondents answered in a way which made history. They were Mr. Kinglake and Mr. Gladstone. Mr. Kinglake, in the preface to a new edition of his Crimean War, told the story of Nicholas Kireeff's death in such a way as to fire the imagination of the public.

HOW NICHOLAS KIRÉEFF DIED.

Mr. Froude, in his preface to Madame Novikoff's book, "Russia and England," after remarking that "by those who can still appreciate noble and generous motives, the Kiréeffs will be recognised as belonging to the exceptional race of mortals who form the forlorn hopes of mankind, who are perhaps too quixotic, but to whom history makes amends by consecrating their memories," says: "The story of Nicholas Kiréeff, which resembles a legend of some mystic Roman patriot or mediæval Crusader, the reader will find told as no other English writer could tell it, by Mr. Kinglake."

The following passage describing Kiréeff's death and the results which followed is one of the finest pieces of English written last century :—

Kiréeff was a man of great stature, with extraordinary beauty of features, and—whether owing to the midsummer heat, or from any wild, martyr-like, or dare-devil impulse—he chose, as he had done from the first, to be clothed altogether in white. Whilst advancing in front of his troops against the Turkish battery he was struck—first by a shot passing through his left arm, then presently by another one, which struck him in the neck; and then again by yet another one, which shattered his right hand and forced him to drop his sword. But, despite all these wounds, he was still continuing his resolute advance when a fourth shot passed through his lungs, and brought him at length to the ground, yet did not prevent him from uttering—although with great effort—"Forward! Forward!" A fifth shot, however, fired low, passed through the fallen chief's heart and quenched his gallant spirit. The brigade he had commanded fell back, and his body—vainly asked for soon afterwards by General Tchernaieff—remained in the hands of the Turks.

These are the bare facts upon which a huge superstructure was speedily raised. It may be that the grandeur of the young officer's form and stature, and the sight of the blood showing vividly on his white attire, added something extraneous and weird to the sentiment which might well be inspired by witnessing his personal heroism. But, be that as it may, the actual result was that accounts of the incident—accounts growing every day more and more marvellous—flew so swiftly from city to city, from village to village, that before seven days had passed the smouldering fire of Russian enthusiasm leapt up into a dangerous flame. Under countless green domes, big and small, priests chanting the "Requiem" for a young hero's soul, and setting forth the glory of dying in defence of "syn-orthodox" brethren, drew warlike responses from men who, whilst still in cathedral or church, cried aloud that they too would go where Kiréeff had gone; and so many of them hastened to keep their word that before long a flood of volunteers from many parts of Russia was pouring fast into Belgrade. To sustain the once kindled enthusiasm apt means were taken. The simple photograph representing the young Kiréeff's noble features soon expanded to large-sized portraits; and Fable then springing forward in the Path of Truth, but transcending it with the swiftness of our modern appliances, there was constituted, in a strangely short time, one of those stirring legends which used to be the growth of long years—a legend half warlike, half superstitious, which exalted its really tall hero to the dimensions of a giant, and showed him piling up hecatombs by a mighty slaughter of Turks.

HOW IT INFLUENCED MR. GLADSTONE.

The other correspondent who responded, not by words but by deeds, was Mr. Gladstone. At first Mr. Gladstone was silent. Mr. Gladstone, however, had no intention of disappointing her. He had realised in a moment how banal and empty would be mere terms of personal commiseration. Her letter had struck a note to which the only adequate response was action, not sympathy. It is, of course, impossible to say to what extent Madame Novikoff's letter inspired his pamphlet on "The Bulgarian Horrors." It is possible that that pamphlet might have been written even if Nicholas Kiréeff had never sacrificed his life in the cause of Slavonic freedom, or if Madame Novikoff had never made her passionate appeal and impeachment. But there is little reason for doubt that the arrival of Madame Novikoff's letter at a time when Mr. Gladstone was feeling, like the rest of his countrymen, the full force of the spasm of horror created by MacGahan's letters, contributed much to the intense fervour and passion with which Mr. Gladstone arraigned the Turkish policy of Lord Beaconsfield. In writing his pamphlet he was not merely discharging a great duty, a duty he owed to outraged humanity, he was also satisfying his chivalrous nature by supplying the best of all balms to the broken heart of Nicholas Kiréeff's sister. At last the pamphlet was written, and in September a copy of it reached Madame Novikoff from Hawarden; it was accompanied by the following letter from Mrs. Gladstone :—

September 8, 1876.

Dear Madame Novikoff,—My husband, overwhelmed at this moment with business, wishes me to write and express to you our sincere sympathy with you in your great loss; indeed we know what it is to lose a precious brother, and we also know as you do how to rejoice in a beautiful unselfish life being crowned with joy eternal. You will ere this have read the answer to your question as to Bulgaria in my husband's pamphlet in the newspapers. England is at length roused from her lethargy; indeed it is terrible what has been going on. Once more assuring you of our heartfelt sorrow in your sorrow, believe me, yours very sincerely, CATHERINE GLADSTONE.

THE GLADSTONE-NOVIKOFF LETTERS.

From that day began that more intimate and most useful political alliance between Mr. Gladstone and Madame Novikoff the existence of which, often suspected, has never been fully and frankly set forth until now. Lord Morley in his "Life of Gladstone" naturally could not devote more than a few pages to what was, in many respects, the most characteristic and heroic episodes in Mr. Gladstone's career. The Gladstone trustees have wisely placed no embargo upon the publication of his letters, of which more than a hundred are contained in these volumes. They do equal credit to her and to him. Faithfully and loyally each worked with the other in promoting the great

cause of Anglo-Russian friendship and co-operation in the liberation of the East. Mr. Gladstone did not write a line which any one who loves him and honours his memory would care to blot. Yet no one wrote or acted with more reckless disregard of the conventional restraints which make such cowards of so many public men. It is true that he had at times curious accessions of alarm which caused him to be discreet in patches—as, for instance, when he begged her not to ask him to give her a ticket to one of his meetings, or when he thrice besought her not to praise him in her writings. But these accesses of caution were but momentary.

THEIR ALLIANCE.

At the very height of the storm he publicly gave his arm to Madame Novikoff, conducted her through the crowded St. James's Hall, and took her to her hotel, although half the ambassadors in London were kept waiting a whole hour for him at a dinner party. And almost immediately after begging her not to praise him he published on the very eve of the General Election of 1880 a glowing eulogium upon Madame Novikoff, which, in the interest of his party, she in vain begged him to suppress. There was a certain magnificent chivalry about Mr. Gladstone during all that time which can only be appreciated by those who lived through that prolonged crisis. There was not a Liberal newspaper at the time would have dared to admit that Mr. Gladstone was working hand in glove with a Russian lady against the Government of his own country. Tory papers hinted at it darkly, or asserted it more or less broadly, but the Liberals went in fear of their lives lest anyone should get to know the truth. At last the truth, and the whole truth, is out, and what does it all amount to?

MR GLADSTONE'S PATRIOTISM.

We see Mr. Gladstone month after month in constant correspondence and confidential council with Madame Novikoff for the avowed purpose of counterworking what he believed to be the policy of Lord Beaconsfield. He is time and again putting himself in the place of the Russian Ambassador and lamenting the indifference of the real Ambassador to the chances of scoring a point against the enemy. While really, although not nominally, leading the Opposition, he was in direct and indirect communication with Madame Novikoff, and through her with the Russian Government, for the purpose of securing the defeat of the machinations of the British Government, which, having backed the wrong horse, had to be rescued despite itself from plunging the nation into war. When I remember how mortally afraid every Liberal leader was of saying a word which might expose them to the accusation that they were encouraging the Boers to defeat the iniquitous policy of Mr. Chamberlain, I cannot but marvel at the moral courage with which Mr. Gladstone upheld the cause of Liberty and Justice, even though by so doing he strengthened the hands of those who were falsely regarded as the enemies of his own country. In the eyes of the Jingo mob this of course was treason. But it was a kind of treason that saved the Empire from a criminal war for which it was utterly unprepared. I suppose as "faith, fanatic faith, once wedded fast to some dear falsehood hugs it to the last," that the statue of Lord Beaconsfield will continue to be decorated afresh each Primrose Day; but I confess I do not understand how any sane Imperialist or sober patriot can read the story of 1878 without feeling that the destinies of England were never in more reckless and incompetent hands than when Lord Beaconsfield menaced Europe with war without even taking the preliminary steps to equip a fleet or to mobilise an army.

THE GLORY OF GLADSTONE.

The chief interest to the statesman and the historian of this book lies in the revelation which it affords of the unflinching courage and marvellous intrepidity with which Mr. Gladstone, who before he died had been four times Prime Minister of the Queen, made alliance with Madame Novikoff, who was everywhere decried as a Russian agent, for the purpose of baffling, defeating, and overthrowing the policy of the Prime Minister of the day. It is a monument more lasting than brass to Mr. Gladstone's memory, a never failing inspiration to those who come after him to offer an uncompromising opposition to the policy of any and every Government which threatens to involve Britain in war in an unholy cause.

HOW HE SAVED CONSTANTINOPLE.

As the pro-Boers have secured a united and loyal South Africa, so it was Mr. Gladstone's pro-Russian policy which saved Constantinople from a Russian occupation. One of the most startling of the many political revelations of this book is the statement that when Admiral Seymour bombarded Alexandria, nothing but the confidence inspired in the Russian Government by Mr. Gladstone's anti-Turkish policy in 1878 prevented a Russian occupation of Constantinople in 1883. In December in that year Madame Novikoff, in course of conversation, mentioned as a fact of which she thought Mr. Gladstone was cognisant the overtures made by the Sultan to Russia to occupy Constantinople, a fact for the accuracy of which she referred to Sir H. D. Wolff. Mr. Gladstone wrote on December 7th:—

> My dear Madame Novikoff,—Tell me all about the Sultan, which you evidently think I know; but I assure you we were not admitted along with Wolff to share the confidences on this interesting occasion.

Madame Novikoff replied as follows on December 8th:—

> You startle me, my dear Mr. Gladstone. I cannot conceive why our diplomatists should be so cautious and reticent about a fact which, according to my humble judgment, certainly does not reflect any discredit on our Government. It is absurd on their part. What I know is this: when the bombardment of

Alexandria became known at Constantinople, the Sultan became frightened at the possible results of the war and nervous about his own fate. The idea struck him that Russia was the only true friend he had, whose word could be trusted, and offers were made (I am told) to the effect that Russian troops should occupy Constantinople. The Russian Government—chiefly our Emperor—has a great regard for you and confidence in all you said and did out as well as in office. Russia declined the Turkish offers. I am anything but sure that she would have done so if you had not been the chief representative of England. Sir Henry D. Wolff told me he knew all about these negotiations from his Constantinople correspondents.

Thus it would seem that Constantinople was saved from Russian occupation in 1883 because of the confidence established in the mind of the Russian Government by Mr. Gladstone's opposition to Lord Beaconsfield's policy of 1878, which had as its ostensible object the keeping of the Russians out of Constantinople.

Dostoyeffski.

THE KAISER'S KIND OFFER.

Another sensational story which Madame Novikoff labels "Important if True," is contained in a letter from one of her friends in Berlin.

It was written in 1891, when, strange though it may appear to-day, even grave statesmen were not without alarm as to the effect which the baccarat scandal at Tranby Croft might have upon the stability of the British throne. The story told Madame Novikoff was to the effect that the Kaiser—who had then been only three years Emperor—had assured Queen Victoria and the then Prince of Wales that if the Socialist and democratic movement should gain such force as to endanger the Monarchy, they could depend upon him to send as many German troops over to England as might be needed to secure the throne! Madame Novikoff did not believe the story then. But since the famous interview, with its revelations as to the authorship of the Plan of Campaign against the Boers, who can dare to deny off-hand that the young Kaiser, with the echoes of Tranby Croft ringing in his ears, may not in his grandly chivalrous fashion have offered the aid of his good Pomeranians to steady the reeling throne of his uncle?

THOMAS CARLYLE.

I have said enough to indicate how rich and rare are the contributions to the political and literary history of our own times which abound in these two volumes. But I ought not to pass without a word the many pleasant and sometimes pathetic glimpses which we obtain of Thomas Carlyle, who was in his last years one of the staunchest friends and sincerest admirers of Madame Novikoff. Few chapters in the book will excite more interest than that devoted to the Froude correspondence, with its echoes of ancient controversy. After this no one will ever venture again to suggest that Mr. Froude was animated by any other sentiments than those of profound loyalty to the friend whom he revered above all other men. There is also a very pleasant chapter devoted to Emile de Laveleye, who was as delightful a letter-writer as he was a keen and intelligent cosmopolitan observer of contemporary politics.

HER LATER YEARS.

Turgenieff.

The first volume closes with the signature of the Berlin Treaty and a lively altercation between Madame Novikoff and Prince Gortschakoff as to the merits or demerits of the Berlin Congress. The second describes the Gladstonian triumph of 1880, and its sequel in the Egyptian war and the Russo-Afghan crisis of 1885. In the chapter on Skobeleff we seem to hear the rehearsal of the discussions now going on about the position of Austria in the Balkans.

The tragic fate of Alexander II. and the policy of Alexander III. are dealt with sympathetically. The robust figure of Sir Robert Morier stands out vividly, a heroic torso, from her pages; and there is an interesting picture of a very different but not less able diplomatist, M. Lessar. The story carries us along through Russian famines and Jewish polemics to the last sad pages, which tell how Mr. Gladstone and Madame Novikoff exchanged their parting letters in grief, not unmixed with wrath, over the refusal of Russia to unite in coercing the Turk in the cause of Armenia. Mr. Gladstone's last letters have been omitted, not out of regard to Madame Novikoff's feelings, but because of the exceeding great

vehemence with which Mr. Gladstone expressed his estimate of the Sultan. The history is brought up to date by the publication of a letter from Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman explaining and defending his policy at the last Hague Conference.

The book is illustrated by about sixty portraits of the leading men and women to whom allusion is made in these Reminiscences. They range from Catherine the Great to Mr. Chamberlain, and constitute an historical picture gallery of our time.

WHAT MADAME NOVIKOFF HAS DONE.

I conclude this rapid glance over the twelve hundred pages of Madame Novikoff's Reminiscences and Correspondence by quoting from the final chapter the following estimate of her position in history:—

It is Madame Novikoff's peculiar and unique claim to the grateful recognition of two nations that more consistently, more persistently, and more conspicuously than any other human being she maintained in both countries the cause of the Anglo-Russian *entente*. And that being the case, I am justified in claiming her right to be recognised as the real heroine of a great international *rapprochement*, the most outstanding figure of influence among all those who contributed to replace enmity by co-operation, to convert foes into friends.

The current of popular passion in England, as interpreted by the majority of its newspapers and expressed by its Government, was repeatedly opposed by Madame Novikoff; and in every case the verdict of history has been given in favour of the cause which she defended. If in the first great crisis the leading part in the campaign of goodwill was taken by Mr. Gladstone, with half the nation at his back, she was even then his most effective ally. But in the second crisis, which arose over the fight at Penjdeh on the Afghan frontier, the Novikoff contingent fought almost alone. Mr. Gladstone himself was then threatening war. Madame Novikoff fought for peace against Mr. Gladstone in 1885, as nine years before with his aid she had fought against Lord Beaconsfield. In the third crisis, the storm that suddenly blew up out of the Dogger Bank incident, even Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman lost his head for a moment, but Madame Novikoff stood firm. It is a great record. Even from the English patriotic point of view Madame Novikoff's action in all these three crises was most useful. Better than any of the passionate exponents of national pride and national interests, she divined and proclaimed that the true policy for the British Empire lay with a hearty *entente* with Russia, a policy which now, with unanimous voice, has been enthusiastically approved by the whole nation, which has opened its eyes to-day to see the truth that Madame Novikoff proclaimed thirty years ago. For Russia, in the whole wide field of foreign policy, no Russian has done so much in our time, or will be remembered with such honour by the generations which are to come. To vindicate the character and to justify the policy of a nation in the very camp of its most inveterate foes is a task seldom imposed upon any individual, and never upon a woman. But it was assumed by Madame Novikoff, and never was higher duty more brilliantly, more conscientiously, and more completely performed.

W. T. STEAD.

Photograph by [*Elliott and Fry.*

Thomas Carlyle.

Photograph by [*Elliott and Fry.*

Anthony J. Froude.

The Shanghai Anti-Opium Conference of Nations.

The Crowning Act of President Roosevelt's Administration.

Probably history will estimate as the greatest act in President Roosevelt's life thus far, the calling of the Anti-Opium Conference of Nations which convened in Shanghai on February 1. Like many of his acts, it is without precedent, for it is the first time a conference of world powers has been called by the United States Government, and the first time such a conference has met in Asia. The second Hague Conference is the only preceding world Parliament in which the leading nations of Europe have met as equals with those of Asia and America. Unlike the "concert of Europe," that has so often met to divide conquered territory, this second concert of the world meets for a purely philanthropic purpose, stated below in a letter from the State Department to its diplomatic representatives in Great Britain, France, Germany, Russia, Italy, Holland, Portugal, Persia, Siam, China and Japan, the jury of twelve nations to which, for whose unanimous verdict through their appointed members of a "joint Commission," Secretary Elihu Root submitted the following propositions:—

"Our idea is that each Government's commission should proceed independently and immediately with the investigation of opium on behalf of its respective country, with a view, first, to devising means to limit the use of opium in the possessions of that country; secondly, to ascertain the best means of suppressing the opium traffic, if such now exists, among the nationals of that Government in the Far East; and, thirdly, to be in a position so that when the commission meets at Shanghai the representatives of the various powers may be prepared to co-operate and to offer jointly or severally definite suggestions of measures which their respective Governments may adopt for the gradual suppression of opium cultivation, traffic, and use within their Eastern possessions, thus assisting China in her purpose of eradicating the evil from her Empire."

That such a programme has been accepted even for joint consideration by the twelve great nations named is itself a half-victory, and there is yet more encouragement in the fact that since the calling of the Conference, every one of these nations except the United States has enacted some measure of anti-opium reform, as Bishop C. H. Brent, of Manila, who suggested the Conference to President Roosevelt, and is now the chairman of the American official delegates, cabled to Congress when the Denby-Lodge Anti-Opium Bill, intended to wash our own hands preparatory to the Conference by forbidding opium importation except for medicine, was on Saturday, January 23, held up in the House of Representatives by Congressman Sereno Payne, mainly on the ground that this bill would cause a loss of a million and a-half of revenue, to the loss of which he referred three times in a speech of twenty lines. This bill to purge our own jurisdiction has since passed the Senate, and will probably have passed the House before this article is read. The effect of this Denby-Lodge Act is only to extend to the entire jurisdiction of the United States Government the policy adopted for the Philippines in 1903 and 1905, which gave the initiatory impulse to the anti-opium "wave" that has since swept round the world.

For the information of those who desire the genesis of the Shanghai Conference we give in a brief chronology facts worthy of an extended history. In 1840-2 occurred the first of three opium wars. China had previously prohibited the sale and use of opium, except for medicine. Vigorous enforcement of this prohibition against British smugglers, if not the only cause of this war, was its chief cause. Even in abject defeat, the Chinese Emperor, Tao Kwang, nobly refused the suggestion that as he was not permitted to exclude opium he should license it. He said: "I cannot receive any revenue from that which causes misery and suffering to my people." It took two more opium wars, in 1858 and 1861, to establish a license system for opium in China. Then it was successfully argued that as China was compelled to receive foreign opium, the Government should tolerate native poppy farming, that by cheaper native opium they might drive out foreign opium, after which it would be possible to suppress it altogether. For revenue sophistries the Chinese in this case were not "peculiar." In 1874, the protest of the British people against the treaty compulsion put on China to tolerate opium took an organised form in the Society for the Suppression of the Opium Trade, whose first president was Lord Shaftesbury. This Society has ever since agitated for the abrogation of the opium treaties. The first official recognition of this agitation was a vote of Parliament in 1891 that "the Indo-Chinese opium trade is morally indefensible." But revenue prevented any restriction, and there was no official victory anywhere in the British Empire until, 10 years later, in 1901 progressive New Zealand banished opium, a step that was followed in 1904 by Australia and South Africa, and in 1908 by Canada. These noble acts of British colonies were influential with the Home Government, and quite as much a series of anti-opium reforms among Britain's "kin beyond the sea" in the United States. In 1900, the International Reform Bureau, with the aid of ex-missionaries to Ceylon, Misses Mary and Margaret W. Leitch, began an anti-opium crusade. Thirty-three American missionary societies, and the Merchants' Association of New York, the Chamber of Commerce of Pittsburg, the Boards of Trade of Baltimore and Jacksonville, the Endeavour Society, the W.C.T.U., and other reform bodies co-operated in securing official action by President Roosevelt, through whom an opium monopoly, projected by the Philippine Government, was overruled, and through whom in 1906 American sentiment had an influential if not a decisive part in securing the unanimous vote of the British Parliament that the "morally indefensible Indo-Chinese opium trade should be brought to a speedy close." That vote, and yet more the statement of Right Honourable John Morley, Secretary of State for India, that "if China really desired to suppress the opium vice, His Majesty's Government would interpose no obstacle," led the Government of China to decree the early closing of opium dens and the gradual suppression of native poppy farming. The sincerity of the efforts of the Chinese Government and people in this crusade has been proclaimed in many public bonfires of costly opium pipes. But the difficulties of eradicating the opium vice not only in China, but wherever the Chinese live, including the Philippines, where opium prohibition, decreed by Congress in 1905, went into full effect in 1908, led Bishop Brent, of Manila (who had been put on an

official opium commission in 1903, in consequence of the veto of the opium monopoly), to suggest in 1907 to President Roosevelt that all nations concerned should co-operate by such a commission as is now in session at Shanghai.

Secretary Elihu Root, who has entered heartily into the President's plans and enlarged them, said to the writer: "My part is diplomacy, your part is agitation." He appreciates that the purposes of the Conference cannot be accomplished by the limited phrases of diplomacy alone, but, as in like efforts for moral measures in legislatures and Congress, public sentiment must furnish the driving power—in this case international public sentiment second only to the omnipotence of God among world forces. It had been necessary that moral leaders should be informed and aroused in all of the twelve nations participating that they might checkmate the sophistries of the opium dealers. On this account the British Anti-Opium Federation and the International Reform Bureau have memorialised not only the Governments participating, but have sent the leading philanthropists of those nations many anti-opium books and documents. Best of all, the Reform Bureau has sent to Shanghai as a "Christian lobbyist," its Secretary for China, Rev. E. W. Thwing, formerly missionary teacher in China and more recently at Honolulu, who will, by press bureau and platform and personal interviews in Chinese, Japanese, French and English, follow the precedent of prophets and apostles who spoke to Governments of "righteousness, temperance and a judgment to come."

The chief obstacle to China's success in the great task that the Government and people have earnestly undertaken is thus stated in a recent letter of Sir John Jordan, British Ambassador at Pekin, which is officially published in White Paper, China, No. 1, 1908, p. 32, 33, 36: "Whether China can completely obtain the goal she seeks without Government control of opium, both native-grown and imported, is somewhat doubtful. At present she is debarred from doing so, by Article V. of the British Treaty of Nanking of 1842. . . . Both in former years and since the issue of the edict, attempts have been made both in the direction of interfering with the importation of foreign opium and the establishment of official monopolies, and successfully opposed by Great Britain as contrary to treaty stipulations. . . . Although China can deal with native-grown opium as she wishes, wherever the interests of British opium merchants have been affected by these monopolies, complaints have been made, and they have in consequence been abandoned." The British Ambassador then goes on to show how the anti-opium reforms undertaken by Viceroy Tuan Fang, whose province Kiangsu is declared to be "foremost in anti-opium measures," were nullified "on the protest of His Majesty's Government that it came in conflict with treaty provisions." This progressive Viceroy consequently "lost face" before his people and Great Britain will "lose face" at the Shanghai Conference and throughout the world if this unprecedented interference with the police regulations of a sovereign nation in defence of an acknowledged vice is not speedily withdrawn. The philanthropists of Great Britain and her colonies are demanding with increasing urgency that the loss of muddy and bloody revenue in India and other British dependencies shall not even delay the release of China from treaty compulsion to tolerate the evil traffic, which China prohibited until her prohibition was cancelled in the blood of what Gladstone called "the wickedest wars in history." As Secretary Hay said when the present anti-opium war was begun in the United States, in 1901, so far as official action is concerned at the hearing before the American State Department, the most influential factor to be invoked is another appeal to "a decent regard for the opinions of mankind."

WILBUR F. CRAFTS.

Washington, D.C.

As poetical works have lately had a slump, it is cheering to see that Mr. T. C. Lothian has found it necessary to bring out a second edition of "Australian Tales and Verses," by P. Stewart. The book is distinguished by a variety, breadth, and delicacy of thought. We hope the issue will meet with the success it deserves.

From Mr. F. E. Vigars, of Sydney, we have received a manual of station book-keeping. It looks the very thing not only for station managers, but also for farmers. It is described as a treatise on double entry book-keeping for pastoralists and farmers, and has now run into the third edition. It gives full explanation of the system of book-keeping and shows the course of entries through the various books. In addition it gives numerous examples of tank, timber, land and other measurements. It is published at 8s.

N.Z. Free Lance.]

The Nimrod's Return—Where is the South Pole?

WELLINGTON SCHOOL MASTER: "Where is the South Pole?"

BOY: "I don't know, sir."

WELLINGTON SCHOOL MASTER: "You don't know after all my teaching?"

BOY: "Well, sir, if Lieutenant Shackleton and all the rest of 'em can't find it, what's the use of me trying?"

SOIL INOCULATION.

AND ITS WONDERFUL EFFECTS.

"Are you going to inoculate your land this year?" said a farmer to another at a country fair. The reply was an emphatic affirmative, for in the part where the words were spoken the good results of soil inoculation are so well known that the nitrogen-producing bacteria are used freely and without stint. And little wonder, for where they are applied to poor and worn-out land, land that is deficient in nitrogen, they stimulate plant life and produce a wonderful growth. The discovery of Professor Bottomley has made it possible to transport to Australia with perfect safety the cultures. Now is the time to use them, when planting is in full swing. Cultures are different for different kinds of plants—that is to say, a different kind of culture is used for peas to what is used for lucerne, and so on. Cultures can be supplied for peas, beans, lucerne, clover and cereals. One packet will inoculate seed sufficient for ten acres, or will spray one acre. I have just received the following letter, which will speak for itself:—"I have shown a number the very successful application of the cultures to peas, beans, pumpkins, etc., inoculating the seed, putting on compost preparation sown as other manure by hand, all of which have given good results, and they are amazed at the result. . . . I wish especially to tell you of my success in it with the water method, which I tried against my better judgment. After using the preparation for inoculating clover, peas, beans, pumpkins, etc., I had three-quarters of the preparation over. I thought it would be best to put on a compost heap. I gathered a heap of the sandiest and poorest earth I could find. I moistened this heap, then after a week or so I put more earth, and mixed it all up, and in about a fortnight I sowed this earth over a hay paddock—this in the month of June—and on lawn and orchard, all of which were benefited, proved by me excepting and marking off small pieces, to see the difference. But what I wish to say is that after using the remainder to moisten the heap, I had three pannikins over. What will I do with this? Then I looked at the instructions, and saw water application. I have a lawn in front of my sitting-room; I'll try it there, and will be able to watch the result daily. Mind you, I did this much against my will. The result was at least 50 times more grass or hay than what was close beside it, and 20 times more produce than by compost sowing. The packet I used was for red clover, and this surprised and happily disappointed me in that the grass the water was sprayed on (I used a watering can) was cocksfoot, crested dog tail, rye and very little clover and thin at that when sown with the water. In a fortnight (in the middle of winter) it seemed to get a deeper green, and to thicken, and when the spring came it grew inches higher, and thickened more than the other part of the lawn; and when it was cut, the result was as above. What astonished me was that the microbs should have made the grass—cocksfoot, etc.—receive nourishment from the atmosphere, when we are given to understand that only leguminous plants do so."

This is what our careful and observant friend writes. The results are truly wonderful. Professor Bottomley's discovery is more marvellous than even he thinks. We supply the cultures as we have stated. The cost is 7s. 6d. per packet. The packets can be separated so that part may be used now and part then. Care must be taken not to allow the cultures to be exposed to direct sunlight.

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INSURANCE NOTES.

From statements recently made by the Premier of New Zealand, Sir Joseph Ward, it appears that the New Zealand State Fire Insurance Department is finding the business unremunerative. The department has made a loss on its business for the year, and the Premier points out that the fire insurance companies have an advantage over the State department, inasmuch as their risks are spread over a wider field, and they have an income from their investments.

An unfortunate accident befell Superintendent Lee, of the Melbourne Metropolitan Fire Brigade, on the 19th ult. He was being driven to a fire in the brigade motor car down Bourke-street, and when approaching the corner of Swanston-street a tram started to cross over. The driver of the motor, in order to avoid a collision, sharply turned the car, which collided with a post at the corner, Mr. Lee and the driver being thrown out, and the car disabled. Mr. Lee was badly shaken and bruised, and had to go off duty for some days. The driver was uninjured.

Marine insurance rates have been generally unprofitable in recent years, owing to the excessive competition among companies and Lloyd's underwriters for business. Recent advices from London point to a hardening tendency, and a rise in rates is probable. One member of Lloyd's recently announced that after 40 years' experience he was able to say that 1908 was the worst year for marine insurance that he remembered.

The Times of London recently complained at the growth of commissions in Life Assurance business, with a consequent reduction in the amount available for distribution among policy-holders. The conclusions arrived at must be that it is impossible to revert to the low commissions paid in the old days. As the area of insurance extends, so will the expenses go up, because of the greater difficulty of getting business. People have to be persuaded to insure. Companies, to hold their own, must link to themselves a good class of men, and consequently commissions paid are entirely due to the necessities of the business. In places like Australia, the cost of carrying insurance to the man in the backblocks must be high, and there is little doubt from a national point of view it is well justified, so that he may be induced to make provision for the future of his family.

An increase in fire insurance rates in New Zealand is considered probable. Business has been very unremunerative there for some years past, and has been mainly caused by the competition of the State Insurance Department with the private companies. A proposal for an increase was dealt with by the Fire Underwriters' Association of New Zealand at a recent meeting, but was not adopted, pending consideration by the head offices of the companies.

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Mr. F. T. Bridges, resident secretary of the Australian Mutual Provident Society at Brisbane, has been appointed to the similar position at Melbourne, rendered vacant by the death of Mr. W. J. Walker, late resident secretary in Victoria. Mr. Walker also was resident secretary at Brisbane at the time of his appointment in 1895 to his late position in Victoria.

An interesting case involving the rights of beneficiaries under a will to sue was decided in the Victorian Courts last month in an action brought against the National Mutual Life Association by Robert Walter Miller of City-road, South Mel-

bourne, for the recovery of £700 as due under two policies effected by his father, Robert Miller, on February 16, 1888, and March 1, 1889, who died on May 18, 1889. Probate of the will was granted to James Holmes Miller and Albert Thomas Miller, of Bendigo, and the deceased left all his property to his children to be divided on the youngest child attaining his majority. In 1894 the executors assigned the policies to Elizabeth Ann Miller, widow of the deceased, for the purpose of enabling the widow to sue on the policies. She commenced an action which was not continued, and the executors and the widow having refused to take further proceedings, the present action was instituted by the plaintiff on behalf of himself and his brother and two sisters. The defendant company maintained that the deceased made untrue statements, and concealed material facts on the proposals for the policies, and the company was thereby freed from liability. It was alleged that deceased had been subject to epileptic fits, and was in ill health when the policies were effected, and that his brother was an inmate of Kew Asylum, and that, notwithstanding these facts, he had stated in his proposals that he was in good health, and that none of his relatives were in bad health, or inmates of any asylum. Counsel for the defendants submitted that the plaintiff was not the proper person to sue, and that the executors or the widow should have brought the action. The policies were not expressed to be in favour of the children, and the executors, as representing the deceased, ought to sue under the contracts he had made. Counsel for the plaintiff contended that the executors only represented the estate in a legal capacity, and if they did not sue in a court of law to recover the money, a court of equity at the instance of the beneficiaries could give relief. His Honour stated that he had made up his mind with regard to the objection in favour of the defendants, but would defer giving judgment in order that he may carefully consider the authorities. In giving judgment the following day, His Honour said that he thought it was beyond all question the plaintiff had at law no right to sue, and that was well settled by authority, but it is suggested that he has a right in equity, as he is a beneficiary. The policy was obtained by the father, not for the benefit of his wife or children, but for himself, and by the policy the money is to be paid to his executors. After the policy had been made, it was quite within the power of Mr. Miller to have taken the surrender value of the policy. He could have ceased to pay premiums, or he could have transferred it to others than his wife or children. Under the policy, neither the plaintiff nor any member of his family possessed any right. They were in no sense beneficiaries under the policy, they were merely beneficiaries under their father's will, but the company was no party to the father's will. He was therefore of opinion that the objection taken to plaintiff's proceedings is a good objection, and he therefore awarded judgment for the defendant company, with costs.

Last year, in consequence of certain criticisms, an official audit of the accounts of the members of Lloyd's by accountants approved by the committee was decided upon. The results of the audit have now been published. They show that 93 per cent. of the members are certified by the auditors as good for all their liabilities. The audit shows that a total of £5,500,000 is deposited by members with the committee as security for contingent liabilities.

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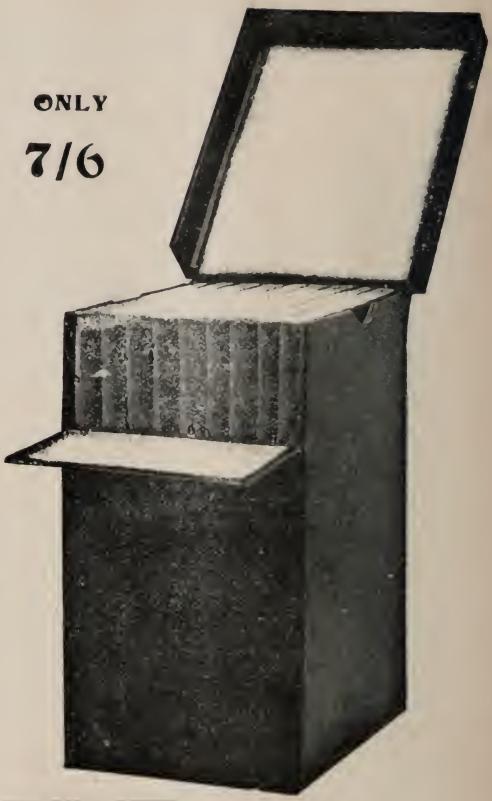

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